Issue No 82 Available from Wednesday, April 8, 2009



MONEY MATTERS

Pull-out supplement on how to beat the crunch



MORE SCHOOL RUN DRIVERS TARGETED

WHAT'S ON & WATCH yourkentty.co.uk



TALKING BUSINESS: The Apprentice candidate Mona Lewis at 2020 Vision. Search 'vision'.

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ECHO DOWN THE YEARS

former naval base's trust. The 25-gun salute was executed on three powerful World War Two artillery pieces, watched by hundreds of former dockyard workers.

Housing minister Margaret Beckett was guest of honour at the ceremony and later officially opened

Housing minister Margaret Beckett was guest of honour at the ceremony and later officially opened the trust's anniversary exhibit, showcasing the preservation, restoration and regeneration work carried out at the dockyard during the last 25 years.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 5

EXCLUSIVE

BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

A SECOND CCTV car is now targeting motorists across Medway.

The new Smart car was rolled out last Wednesday, enabling roving wardens to issue twice as many tickets as before.

Medway council's first CCTV car – leased at an annual cost of £95,000 – issued more than 9,500 penalty charge notices to illegally-parked drivers in its first year of operation.

Since April last year, the council has raked in more than £200,000. The two-car fleet will visit four schools per day, patrolling "trafficsensitive areas" between the morning and afternoon peak hours.

In a council report, parking manager Rubena Hafizi writes: "Due to the increasing demand for the CCTV vehicle at schools and the positive impact it has had on the number of incidents against our staff, we have implemented a second vehicle from April 1.

"This enables us to visit four schools per day, maximising our presence and enabling us to respond to the regular requests we receive.

"Income from penalty charge notices is reinvested and ring-fenced into highways, road safety and car parks."

Medway Council figures show 1,491 penalty charge notices have been issued outside Medway schools since April last year. These fines were handed out from just 339 visits – equating to more than four fines per visit.

More than 8,000 penalty charge notices have been issued to drivers where parking is prohibited, such as yellow lines and bus stops.

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Kent Life has opened its doors for 2009 promising a full family day out. Search 'family'



Discovering the crypt in St Peter's Church, Sandwich; one of the county's best kept secrets to visit. Search 'crvpt'



Members of The Royal Sussex living history regiment at Folkestone's Shorncliffe Barracks. Search 'history'

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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UNITED FRONT: Determined parents have the support of local politicians over their campaign

Vodafone face legal action to stop mast

FRUSTRATED residents are considering launching a legal challenge against Vodafone in a bid to stop the communications giant building a phone mast near a primary school.

The threat of court action was made by campaigner Mike Evans, one of a group of parents outraged that the 3G mast could be erected just 100ft away from St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School in Gillingham. The determined parents are sup-

ported by members of the three main political parties – with all three Liberal Democrat Gillingham North ward councillors, the Labour MP for Gillingham and Rainham Paul Clark and the Conservative-run council voicing their opposition to the mast. Council chiefs twice rejected

Vodafone's planning application, but were overruled by the Planning Inspectorate earlier this year. Work began on installing the mast last week.

Mr Evans said Vodafone's motivation for pushing the application through was solely for the site's proximity to Gillingham train station enabling the firm to offer wireless

network coverage for commuters.
Speaking at the phone mast site in
Railway Street on Sunday, the frustrated father said: "Vodafone has said the mast is being put up for Gillingham residents and the neighbouring business park.

"The mast will cost £250,000 and yet will only give coverage to a relatively small area, in the region of 15 BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

streets. What's more, Vodafone's own website says there is fantastic coverage in Gillingham – some of the parents here today are with Vodafone and can access perfect 3G coverage.

"We think young children's lives are being put at risk not for the benefit of Gillingham residents, but so that commuters on the train are able to access their Blackberrys and laptops.

"I'm no scientist, but what I do know is that Vodafone and other mobile phone companies say there are gaps in the knowledge about radiation from phone masts.

"The Government advocates a policy whereby firms should think twice before erecting masts near schools.

"Phone masts may well be safe, but we don't know that. And while there's any doubt about it we say don't put masts near schools.
"That's why we're considering a

legal challenge.

Paul Clark MP added: "I was approached by these parents and I was happy to take up the case. I know that a lot of people still feel worried about mobile phone masts and they want to see conclusive evidence they are safe. As long as the parents, the schools, and the children are concerned, I am concerned. I'll support them all the way."

A Vodafone spokesman said the mast was needed to improve coverage in Gillingham, saying: "We are aware of coverage gaps in the area and would like to improve the service to our customers.'

yourmedway **NEWS** IN BRIEF

30-year-old dies after being struck by bus

A MAN died after being hit by a bus in Rochester on Friday night.

Martin Barlow, 30, was struck by a single-decker 145 Arriva bus near his home in Catherine Street shortly after 9pm.

A Medway man – who has not been named by police – was arrested in connection with the incident.

It has not been confirmed if this man was the driver of the bus. He has been released on bail until June.

A police spokesman said the investigation into the circumstances of the Mr Barlow's death was on-going.

MP's website is hit by abusive online attack

A HACKER broke into MP Paul Clark's official website on Monday morning to post an offensive comment.

The unknown online attacker wrote f*** off' on the Gillingham and Rainham Labour MP's homepage after navigating their way past the

site's security measures.

It is thought they also targeted other Labour ministers' websites.

A comment posted by Mr Clark's press officer Tom Davis said: "Apologies to anyone who took offence at being told to f-off when they arrived at the website.

"It's not the campaign slogan we'll be going for next time.

Sponge ball truce to ease locals' concerns

FOOTBALL-mad teenagers have agreed to use sponge balls when playing out in the streets - just one of the compromises reached at a police-led community meeting.

The 14 to 15 year olds said they would not use leather footballs on the Macklands estate, Rainham, and will also finish playing at 9pm after a string of residents' complaints about damage to car and late night noise.

Money has also been found to build a temporary hut at Rainham recreation ground. The hut will give youngsters shelter until extra funds are available to re-develop the pavilion.



Yobs accused of attack arrested in dawn raids

Police targeted 17 youngsters

■ BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

ELEVEN teenagers were arrested in connection with a savage assault on a father and son.

The yobs – aged between 15 and 18 – were rounded up in a series of raids across Strood and Rochester on Monday.

A total of 17 youths, all known to the police,

were targeted by detectives but only 11 were home at the time. They were quizzed in custody.

All 11 were released on bail yesterday for further investigation but will have to obey conditions including a curfew from 8pm to 6am.

The arrests were linked to an assault on a 50year-old man and his 19-year-old son at their home in Church Green, Strood.

The father was attacked after asking a group of up to 17 teenagers to move away from his property between 8.30pm and 9.15pm.

One of the yobs hit the man on the side of his face, sending him sprawling to the ground.

He was then set upon by more than a dozen teens, who kicked him repeatedly in the head. His son rushed to his aid and was also attacked. Both men were left bloodied on the ground.

They were taken to Medway Maritime Hospital



WAKE UP CALL: Police officers on Monday morning at the home of a suspect linked to the attack on a father and son

where they were treated for cuts and bruises.

Detective Sergeant Dan Smith, the investigating officer, said: "This was an unprovoked and isolated incident, and fortunately the vic-

tim did not suffer serious injuries.
"We wanted to make some early morning arrests of people we would like to speak to in connection with this incident.

"Making these arrests on the first day of the

Easter holidays also sends out a clear message that behaviour of this kind will not be tolerated.

"An early morning call from Kent Police would not be what these teenagers or their

families would have expected."
Superintendent Des Keers added: "Kent Police in Medway will not hesitate in taking appropriate action against those who are seen to break the law and act in an anti-social manner.'

Trust cited over cleaning problem

A HOSPITAL trust has sought to reassure patients after its cleaning standards were flagged up in the first report by the new 'super watchdog'.

Medway NHS Foundation Trust was among 21 organisations in the country found not to be meeting Government regulations for managing the spread of infection, according to the Care Quality Commission's assessment.

The trust has defended its results and said staff morale had been dented after the bad publicity following the CQC's report on Friday.

Linda Dempster, head of infection control and prevention, said: "Medway is safe, clean and has very good infection rates.'

The trust has been told it must meet the national cleaning standards in high-risk areas throughout the trust by May 31.

Infection control and hygiene became a major concern nationally after 90 patients died in two outbreaks of the superbug C diff at Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust between 2004-06.

Declaration

In a damning report on the deaths from the health watchdog in 2007, infection control and hygiene, and poor leadership, were blamed for the trust's failures.

The CQC, launched last week, has a range of new powers and was formed by a merger of the Healthcare Commission, the Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission.

Health bosses were warned trusts face tough measures if they fail to meet standards, including fines and closure of

Mrs Dempster said: "I think it is important people know it was our own declaration. At the time we had some work going on to change the way our housekeeping team is trained, which will be completed by the end of April. It is not saying we are not already clean, it is saying that we want to improve things further.

Major's ride for charity is Bright-on

RETIRED Army Major Robin Alexander is gearing up for a mam-moth three-day charity bike ride.

Major Alexander, who served for 28 years in the Corps of Royal Engineers and 15 more as a Retired Officer at the Royal School

of Military Engineering (RSME), will get into the saddle on April 14. The Looking on the Bright-on Side riding challenge sees the Major set off from the RSME in Chatham, heading to Brighton, via London, and back

Supporting

All proceeds of the trek will go towards the Help for Heroes campaign, which supports servicemen wounded in action.

Major Alexander said: "I have seen first-hand the physical and psychological damage that can be done during times of conflict.

"That trauma does not simply end when a soldier returns home. "Help for Heroes is doing a tremendous job of supporting our returning soldiers and their families through those difficult times."

Major Alexander has already completed three charity bike rides, raising more than £40,000 for other charities.

Waterfront vision comes closer to reality as council agree to new homes build

PLANS to transform the Temple Waterfront site into a major mixeduse community have been submitted to Medway Council.

The detailed proposal – lodged yesterday – would see 620 homes built on the 28-hectare brownfield site along with shops, retail outlets and businesses.

The Strood site's half-mile waterfront, which overlooks Rochester castle and cathedral, will be adorned with public walkways and open spaces while wildlife habitats will be protected and enhanced.

Morgan Timber, co-owners of the land with Medway Council and Lafarge Cement UK, will remain on site in improved premises.

Work on the site is expected to be carried out swiftly after Lafarge and Medway Council bosses signed a Planning Performance Agreement, a new system designed to simplify and speed up large-scale development proposals.

Lafarge's land and planning director David Simms said: "Today's submission of our planning application, together with the signing of the planning performance agreement, is a huge step forward.



VISION: Impression of Temple Waterfront

"Temple Waterfront, with its links to the M2 and superb views across the river to Rochester castle and cathedral, is one of our most important sites. It has massive potential and we're determined to see that potential realised."

Medway Council leader Rodney Chambers added: "This application is another milestone for our 20-year regeneration programme.

"Our ambition is to transform Medway into a successful riverside city through the redevelopment of town centre and waterfront sites along seven miles of the river."

A period of public consultation will be carried out and various planning committees will discuss the proposals before anything is rubber-stamped.



yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

Have your say on plans for the area's economy

BUSINESSES and residents are invited to have their say on Medway Council's three-year economic plan.

The Economic Development Strategy 2009 to 2012 aims to address key business issues, build on successes and create a prosperous economy for the future.

Economic growth boss Jane Chitty said: "One of our main priorities is to ensure that everyone in Medway benefits from Medway's economy."

Easter surprises in store at Outlet Centre

BUNNIES chicks and lambs will be among the barnyard animals grazing on the Dockside Outlet Centre farm this Easter.

The farmyard will be set up at the Chatham Maritime shopping centre on Saturday April 11 and on Easter Monday.

The Easter activities also include an exciting egg hunt, with free packets of mini eggs being given away while

Twickers abseil a great try for stroke charity

BRAVE brother and sister Nicola and Anthony Vaughan helped raise more than £100,000 for charity when they abseiled down Twickenham Stadium.

The siblings, from Gillingham, were two of 700 daredevils to complete the 100ft descent at England's national rugby stadium on Sunday March 29, raising money for the Stroke Association.

The charity abseil day raised more than

Visit egg-citing fayre at Hempstead Valley

AN EASTER gift fayre is being held at Hempstead Valley this week giving shoppers the chance to pick up a range of goods and delicacies.

A shopping centre spokesman said: "The malls will be filled with stalls selling a wide range of Easter gifts, from chocolates from Medway-based Relish Chocolates, decorated goose eggs, to bespoke jewellery and handmade soaps, you'll find a great selection of inspiring gifts for Easter."

The free fayre runs until Saturday.

'Viagra' rapist jailed for evil attacks on teen girls

A FORMER Army Cadet member BY SIMON ROBINSON who took Viagra to carry out a string of "horrifying" sexual attacks on two young girls has been jailed for 15 years.

Paedophile David Ransley, 60, who is believed to have links with the Kent Army Cadet Force in Gillingham, was found guilty of ten counts of sexual offences including rape, sexual assault of a child and causing a child to engage in sex-

Ransley, of Newington, near Sittingbourne, was told he must serve at least half of the jail term before he is eligible for release.

In sentencing at Maidstone Crown Court last Wednesday, Judge Martin Joy said Ransley had shown significant planning to commit these offences, even obtaining a prescription of Viagra so that he would have the necessary potency to have sex with his victims

He also said that Ransley showed "no victim empathy at all" and that he used "significant interpersonal skills to gain the trust of these victims and then abused that trust".

Judge Joy went on to say that "he had no doubt that the degree of harm Ransley had done

to his victims will last for a very long time"

The successful prosecution came as a result of a year-long investigation by child protection officers from Kent Police based in the Mid Kent Public Protection Unit at Sittingbourne Police

Detective Constable John Milham, who led the investigation, said: "Ransley was a dangerous predator who cynically abused the trust shown to him by the victims and their families, for his own sexual gratification.

"The success of this investigation would not have been possible without the sheer bravery of the victims and they should be commended for their courage in coming forward to report these

"Every child matters and those who decide to abuse children will be pursued by police, no matter how long ago those crimes were com-

On release from prison Ransley will have to sign the Sex Offenders Register for life and will not be allowed to work with children either in a paid or voluntary position.

He will also be subject to a Sexual Offences



PREDATOR: Former Army Cadet member David Ransley

Prevention Order for an indefinite period.

After the sentencing a spokesman for the Army Cadet Force said: "David Ransley is a former adult member of Kent Army Cadet force."

He refused to comment further on his role within the cadet force.

Waste of a good garden punished



A CHATHAM man has been fined £250 after turning his garden into

a tip.

Bhupinder Singh, 52, of Natal Road, was hauled before Medway Magistrates Court after ignoring repeated requests to clear his land of

The court heard Singh's unfenced garden was full of decaying waste including a rotting bath, old tyres, a rusty fridge and an old armchair.

Medway Council' enforcement team spent more than a year unsuccessfully trying to persuade Singh to clear the garden.

But when it became clear that Singh was not going to take any action, he was served with a notice under section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

The notice required Singh to clear his garden of rubbish and dispose of it at a registered waste disposal site.

Yet again he ignored the council's pleas – forcing the matter to be settled in court.

Magistrates handed Singh a £250 fine and ordered him to pay £120 in costs and a £15 victim surcharge.

Community safety and enforcement chief Rehman Chishti said: Untidy land has a detrimental effect on the quality of life for residents in Medway.

"As well as being an eyesore, it can attract further fly-tipping and lead to feelings of insecurity for residents and visitors to the area.

"This case sends a strong message to those who think we will not take action against them.'

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GUEST: Housing and Planning Minister Margaret Beckett was given tour of Chatham Historic Dockyard's new exhibition

Crowds and guns salute dockyard's 25th anniversary

CHATHAM Historic Dockyard BY SIMON ROBINSON Trust marked its anniversary in style with a 25-gun salute - one shot for each year's service since its inception in 1984.

The celebratory salute was carried out on three World War Two guns and watched by hundreds of former dockyard workers and invited guests, including Housing and Planning Minister Margaret Beckett MP.

Attention then turned to the former naval base's No 3 Covered Slip for the official launch of a new exhibit detailing the work of the Trust during the past 25 years.

The exhibition uses photographs from the Trust's collections to illustrate how the derelict former military industrial site has been transformed into a thriving mixed use community.

It now has 112 homes, 100 small businesses and welcomes around 150,000 visitors per year to its maritime heritage attractions

Visitors and guests were treated to birthday



Big guns salute Historic Dockyard's silver anniversary. Search 'guns

went with it. "However, this area is tough, resilient and resourceful and it is because of this that Medway has managed to move on from this

cake and a celebratory glass of champagne.

Chatham Dockyard Historical Society

He said: "I was one of the team that disoosed of the last items at the dockyard when

"It's great to see all these people in the

"What we need to see in the future is more

dockyard again, there are quite a few ex-

money being invested into the dockyard but

me it's a bittersweet day. It's bitter as it's sad

that a place with such naval history had to

close but it's also sweet to see how the dockyard

has been restored, being used and celebrated." Ms Beckett said: "It is a privilege to have

been invited to help celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Chatham Historic

"These stunning converted dockyard buildings are a tribute to those who worked on

them. They demonstrate what regeneration is all about - simultaneously preserving a

proud part of our naval heritage while using

"I look forward to another 25 years of achievement."

Medway Council leader Rodney Chambers said: "The closure of the Royal Naval

Dockyard in 1984 brought about the loss of thousands of jobs and the pay-packets that

I'm aware that finances are very tight.' CDHS secretary Clive Stanley added: "For

workers here.

Dockyard Trust.

it to build for the future.

chairman Brian Jenkins said he was delight-

ed to see the dockyard thriving once more

it shut down - I was here until the last. "I've always thought we need to see the dockyard being occupied and being used as it

period.
"I am proud of the developments in all areas of the former naval dockyard and there's more to look forward to as Medway continues to be redeveloped as part of the Thames Gateway regeneration programme.'

yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

Youngsters dive in for free

TEENAGERS have made the most of a free swimming scheme, with numbers rocketing by 150 per cent.

The healthy living drive – backed by £140 million of government cash – allows anyone aged under 16 and over 60 the chance to swim for free

Medway MPs Jonathan Shaw and Paul Clark have backed the scheme, on offer at council-owned pools across the towns.

Mr Shaw, who represents Chatham and Aylesford, said: "As a result of NHS funding, pools in Medway have been able to offer the free swimming initiative since January.

"The swimming scheme has been great. I am told that there has been 150 per cent increase in under 16s and a 40 per cent in over 60s taking up swimming activities.

"Swimming is a great form of exercise and

the benefits to our health are numerous."
Paul Clark MP added: "Twenty million people under 16 or over 60 are entitled to free swimming thanks to the Government's investment in the programme."

Pylon removal set to begin

MORE than a mile of overhead power lines are being taken down to further improve two beauty spots.

Engineers are undertaking the work at Cobham Park near Rochester and at White Horse Wood Country Park near Maidstone, replacing the lines with underground cables. EDF Energy Networks is spending

£180,000 on the project thanks to a grant from the industry regulator Ofgem.

Nigel Collier, protected areas project officer for EDF, said: "We are delighted to be providing the technical expertise behind these two projects. The removal of the lines will improve the views in and around both parks."

Abi to take pole position

GLAMOUR girl Abi Titmuss will come to Medway later this month to star in a poledancing play.

The celebrity pin-up will play the lead in The Naked Truth at Chatham's Central Theatre on April 24 and 25, which also stars ex-Emmerdale actress Lisa Riley and Trudi Goodwin, best known as Sergeant June Ackland in The Bill.

The play follows five women struggling to conquer the art of pole dancing for a charity event. • To book tickets call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking.



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FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

13°C | 13°C | 13°C | 13°C | 12°C

12°C | 12°C | 14°C | 12°C | 12°C

12°C 13°C 12°C 11°C 11°C

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Ashford

Canterbury

Chatham

Dartford

Faversham

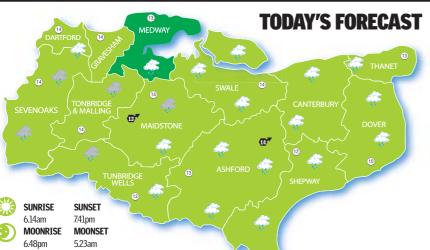
Gillingham

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Sittingbourne 12°C

Fri

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RAVENHEAT

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WORCESTER

14°C | 13°C | 13°C | 13°C

WEEKEND **HIGH TIDES**

Chatham	Saturday	2:48pm	6.1m	
	Sunday	3:21pm	6.0m	
Dover	Saturday	1:03pm	6.5m	
	Sunday	1:37pm	6.5m	
Dungeness	Saturday	1:02pm	7.7m	
	Sunday	1:36pm	7.5m	
Ramsgate	Saturday	1:33pm	5.0m	
	Sunday	2:07pm	4.9m	
Sheerness	Saturday	2:38pm	5.8m	
	Sunday	3:11pm	5.7m	
Whitstable	Saturday	2:54pm	5.2m	
	Sunday	3:25pm	5.1m	

AROUND THE **WORLD YESTERDAY**

Amsterdam	16°C	Madrid	22°C
Athens	11°C	New York	14°C
Barcelona	16°C	Paris	19°C
Beijing	26°C	Rome	17°C
Bombay	36°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	21°C	Tenerife	22°C
Cardiff	11°C	Tokyo	18°C
Gibraltar	17°C	Vancouver	12°C
Hong Kong	19°C	Warsaw	14°C
Las Palmas	22°C	Wellington	18°C

Kent on Saturday proves more news is good news

KENT on SATURDAY

KOS Media is proud to announce the addition of Kent on Saturday to its award-winning

series of newspapers.

Incorporating all the best aspects of our existing Kentish Saturday Observer, this exciting new publication will cover all the biggest news and sports stories of the week and reach more readers than ever before.

At a time when other local newspaper groups are being forced to cut back on staff and resources, the birth of Kent on Saturday demonstrates that KOS Media, the publisher of this paper, is still thriving despite the economic climate.

Managing director Paul Stannard said: "This is another exciting development for us at KOS Media following the launch of our two new YourLocal papers in Deal and Sandwich last month, which demonstrates our commitment to delivering hard-hitting news throughout the county.

Delivery

"Kent on Saturday will sit as an equal to our award-winning Kent on Sunday publication and act as the perfect start to the weekend."

Readers will be able to get their hands on a copy of the free paper from next weekend, with the number of available copies being significantly higher than was offered by the Kentish Saturday Observer.

Kent on Saturday will be available from all good newsagents and retail outlets from this Saturday. Alternatively, you can go green by

reading it free on screen at www.kentnews.co.uk. Meanwhile, KOS Media is running a new promotion to offer free delivery of its weekend papers to selected homes. To find out more visit www.kentnews.co.uk/free.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

KEFFORD



How did you get into radio?

I wanted to be in radio from an early age. Aged five or six, can't quite remember, one day off school I was in the kitchen playing at

Two cassette-players, mine and my sister's, I'd turn one tune off, talk to myself and then play another song. Weird thing is, I'm pretty much doing the same thing for a job right now. The only difference, I don't do it in my mum's kitchen any more!

When is your show on and how long have you done it?

My Drive Time show is on weekday afternoons. Starts at 4pm, ends at 7pm. And I love it. I've been doing it three years now. I remember the day I walked in the building for the first time, it was very exciting, and it seems like just last week. Time flies when you're having a bundle of fun.

What advice would you offer a potential DJ?

Depends on which sort of DJ-ing you mean. Nightclub DJ-ing's very different from radio-presenting. Nightclubs, practise for hours on your equipment, it's all in the mix and presenting your music, with minimal

On the other hand, on the radio it's all about the speaking. Very different. If you want to get

into radio, first make sure you love it, or the idea of doing it, and then be prepared to work for nothing. I did voluntary hospital radio, it's a great place to start, you'll learn a lot and I really recommend it.

Mhat is the best thing about presenting a radio show?

It's a buzz for three whole hours, and you know it is because the time just flies by. There's not a moment you can take your eye off the ball - you have to concentrate and when things work out the way I planned, it's a brilliant feeling. Add to that the great phone-calls and texts I get from listeners, all good stuff.

What is the worst?

When it all goes wrong and listeners look at their radio and think you're a plum. I try to laugh it off, saying that "Yes, I am stupid". I'm not the most technical guy in the world, so sometimes it's a bit of a struggle. Too many buttons, not enough brain!

Mow much planning goes into an average show?

I plan every show carefully. I know, listening to it, it can be hard to believe! But everything that happens on the radio has to be carefully timed. Time is very important. So knowing what you're going to do and when

you're going to do it is very important, too. I write everything down and the trick then is to make it sound conversational. Sometimes I manage it better than others.

Do you look to emulate another DJ's particular style?

There is one guy who I thought was, and still is, a brilliant communicator. He also has a similar sense of humour to me. It's Simon Mayo. He had a superb breakfast show back in the late 80s and early 90s - it was just the best thing I'd ever heard. It was that that made me realise the job I was doing at that time was not what I really wanted to do. What I really wanted to do was radio, just like Simon

What are your hobbies and interests?

Sport, any sport. I don't play anything now, but I love to watch sport. I used to play a lot of rugby. I was OK, as well. So that is my sport of choice, but anything will entertain me.

Where in Kent do you live?

I live in Thanet. I've been in Kent for the three years I've been at Invicta FM. But I've been to Kent a million times, not least, of course, because I married and divorced a Kent girl: Sharon from Margate... you might know

Invicta FM DJ Neil Kefford talks to **Tom Betts** about his early love of radio from practising in his mum's kitchen, the constant buzz of being on air and what he does when the buttons get the better of him



*The Cinema and selected restaurants and bars will be open on Easter Sunday,

check www.bluewater.co.uk for more details.





Kent Life has been re-launched as a fun family attraction, Search 'Kent'



Second successful Travel & Leisure Show held in Dover, Search 'travel'



A guide to what's on offer at Gurkha Music Festival. Search 'Gurkha'



See our Go Green - Read It Free On Screen TV commercial. Search 'green'



Police launch Safer Spring campaign to stop nuisance crime. Search 'safer'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...

yourkenttv.co.uk

'Bankers who sparked crisis deserve prison'

LEADING journalist and broadcaster Andrew Neil has lashed out at a business conference at the banks that sparked the economic

He told delegates at the Kent 2020 Vision business exhibition that he would like to see some bankers go jail - but that would probably happen in the US rather than here.

Mr Neil, a former Sunday Times editor who is now chief of Press Holdings and owner of The Spectator, said the problem was not lack of banking regulation but failure to implement existing rules

He said: "I do think everyone was complicit in this. The banks are clearly the number one villain, but everyone looked the other way.

"I don't think the banks should be regulated to hell, but I would like to see some of them

BY TONY PATEY

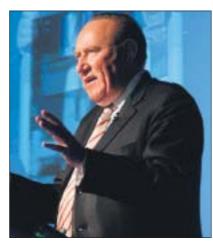
"I would like to see the handcuffs on some of the bankers because I think they have broken the law and I do think they deserve to go to

"I think that will happen in America, although I would hope to think in this country as well - but I do look forward to it happening in the US."

Kent County Council leader Paul Carter told the conference that plans would be unveiled this year aimed at boosting the number of youngsters taking up apprenticeships in Kent.

The proposals should increase the number of apprentices from about 2,000 to 8,000 within a

More than 3,000 business people attended the fourth annual 2020 Vision event at the County Showground, Detling, on Thursday.



ANDREW NEIL: Angered by banks' role in credit crunch

Prepaid cards ready to help animal park

JUST before Christmas the Aspinall Foundation, in conjunction with KOS Media, publisher of this newspaper, offered readers the chance to win a VIP family trip around Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Hythe.

The prize includes free entry to the park and a trip in a safari vehicle around the African Experience, a 100-acre site next to the park with breathtaking views of the English Channel.

Entrants were asked to either send in a postal entry with their contact details or take advantage of registering for a free Aspinall prepaid Maestro card.

Registration

Some readers experienced problems with the online registration for the card due to a malfunction, so KOS Media readers are invited to try again and register on www.savinggorillas.com for their free Aspinall Foundation Maestro prepaid card.

It is easy to apply for and no credit

Young people aged between 13 and 17 can also apply, as long as they have their parents' permission.

The card can be used as a debit card but is topped up like a mobile phone and all profits associated with using it are given back to the Foundation.

By using this card, help will be given to support the Foundation's African projects in Congo and Gabon, as well as to the important work carried out in the UK and other parts of the world.

The card is a safe alternative to carrying cash and is accepted worldwide. The account can easily be managed online with instant top-up available.

The winner of the VIP family trip around Port Lympne is Elizabeth Instone, from Chatham.

World leaders given a taste of Kent's finest

WORLD leaders in London for the G20 summit were served a 'best of British' dinner that included vegetables from the Garden of

US president Barack Obama, French president Nicolas Sarkozy and other leaders of the 20 richest countries in the world sat down together for a meal cooked by Jamie Oliver at Downing Street on Wednesday last week.

The party tucked into a starter of organic Scottish salmon served with samphire and sea

(ii) Community TV Sponsored by P&O 📜 Ferries

kale, with a selection of vegetables from Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

For the main course, slow-roasted shoulder of lamb from a hill farm in Wales was served with Jersey Royal potatoes, wild mushrooms and mint sauce.

Dessert was a classic comfort food of Bakewell tart and custard.

As the leaders debated the benefits of fiscal stimulus, their spouses enjoyed a more relaxed dinner hosted by Sarah Brown with celebrity

guests from the worlds of fashion, sports, business and the arts.

Olympic gold-medallist Dame Kelly Holmes, from Tonbridge, was seated next to Michelle Obama. On the other side of the First Lady was Harry Potter author JK Rowling.

The G20 summit saw the leaders come together at the Excel centre in London's Docklands on Thursday to agree measures to tackle the worst global financial crisis since





For information and advice on travelling in Kent and for all our traffic regulation orders, please see the Saturday Observer or the Kent on Sunday or visit our website at www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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One amazing venue • One great night out

Mulberry Tree's deep local roots

FLIPPING over a menu in a restaurant today is rarely an eyeopening experience.

Maybe it will have the desserts ... or perhaps simply a heavy hint to leave a tip if you believe the service has been up to scratch. Some, simply a splodge of someone else's leftovers. Yet for one restaurant in a pretty village just outside Maidstone, it has turned it into an opportunity to underline its Kentish credentials.

Because at the award-winning Mulberry Tree in Boughton Monchelsea, owners list the suppliers of all the main ingredients.

It is a transparency which has proved a big hit for the restaurant and played a role in it scooping the prestigious restaurant of the year title in the Taste of Kent awards at Leeds Castle in February.

The Produced in Kent-backed awards reward those who support local suppliers and producers. Putting the source of the food in the diners' face proved a shrewd move.

Karen Williams, the owner of the Mulberry Tree, said: "It works in two ways. It's great advertising for them, but it keeps them on their toes, too. For example – and not that it's ever happened – but if someone is eating a piece of meat they don't think comes up to scratch, the supplier's name is on the menu so they are named and shamed.

"It's quite an unusual thing to do and we get an awful lot of comments about it.'

Today, nearly two years in, it has bucked the trend as its revenues increase in what is traditionally one of the slowest periods of the year. And with both her mother and daughter involved in the day-to-day running, it is very much a personal, family-run business.

Yet it is the food which puts this hidden treasure in the spotlight.

In a perfect fit with our campaign of urging our readers to demand locally produced and sourced food and drink – spearheaded by our www.foodforkent.co.uk website – it is a vision embraced wholeheartedly by the Mulberry Tree. And it takes a need to 'go







BUY LOCAL: Karen Williams, owner of the Mulberry Tree restaurant at Boughton Monchelsea, names her local suppliers on the menu

local' very seriously. All its meat comes from nearby Cranbrook - the beef from the Angley School farm and the venison from Staplehurst. Wild mushrooms are foraged locally by an expert and the fish is chosen fresh from the catch of the day by crews in Hythe. Even the flour for the freshly-made and baked bread is local. It has even secured the once thought impossible and put together an entirely Kentish cheeseboard.

The owner adds: "Sourcing local is the way forward. Life changes and we evolve with it. By doing this we're championing the little people. I've always dealt with local suppliers – not as consciously as I do now – but it is

"We are a little person. An independent. We have to fight hard to survive. Spending local-

"Campaigns such as yours are tapping into a real shift right now. It's like cutting down on using carrier bags. Now when I go shopping I consciously make an effort to buy sea-

Delicious Easter Kentish feast delivered to your door

WHAT better way to celebrate Easter this year than sitting down to a delicious feast of Kent food and drink?

And by shopping at www.foodforkent.co.uk you can do just that. We have teamed up with the top producers from across the county to allow you to order up a tasty Easter for your friends and family.

Our one-stop online shop makes buying local easy - just browse the huge range and select your delivery window. Before you know it, it will be delivered straight to your door.

This week, we have Easter lamb, reared in Ash, near Canterbury. It comes from one of the oldest breeds in the world, The Romney – sometimes referred to as The Kent – producing consistent quality for centuries. And at £1725 per leg you can save £2.73 on Sainsbury's prices of Welsh lamb.

We're also working closely with Griggs of Hythe to bring you some fabulous local fish while being kind to your pocket. There is 10 per cent off all our prices until Good Friday. You



can make savings compared to all the major supermarkets and be comfortable in the knowledge that your fish has come

Its spring too, and this means lots of fresh local vegetables

and salads coming into season to arrive with you the day after they were picked and with minimal environmental impact. So have a happy Easter with www.foodforkent.co.uk.

Coming into season this week:

- Spring greens
- Spring lamb
- Dover sole
- Red mullet













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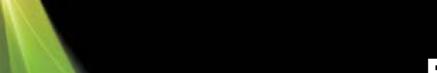
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BREAK TIME



University accord boosts grammar

CHATHAM Grammar School for Boys has joined forces with Canterbury Christ

Church University in a bid to boost pupils' higher education aspirations. The Progression Accord guarantees an interview to any student who meets the entry requirements, has a supportive reference from the school and a strong personal statement.

University chiefs will also advise students and parents on choosing courses and institutions, completing UCAS forms, what admissions tutors look for and preparations for interviews

The accord was signed by Chatham Boys' head David Marshall and the university's pro vice-chancellor Prof Sue Piotrowski (pictured above).

Mr Marshall said: "We are delighted to sign this accord. Our pupils have reached a point where their accelerated curriculum has meant they have finished their A levels a year early, so this will enrich their options further. This will help us build upon our links with the university.

Prof Piotrowski said: "We have enjoyed strong links with Chatham Grammar for years and are delighted to strengthen these through this accord.

"It will give pupils opportunities to enter higher education locally through CCCU, should they choose to."

Girls told a life in maths really is the life of Riley

BY **SIMON ROBINSON**

NUMBER-cruncher Rachel Riley spoke to Rochester Grammar School for Girls pupils at the national Big Bang science fair.

The new Countdown co-host spoke to the youngsters about her work with the Science: So What? So Everything campaign.

Ms Riley, who received an MA from Oxford University in mathematics, covering quantum theory, fluid mechanics and applied maths, said she was passionate about maths and sci-

Speaking to the pupils at the London event, she said: "I've been enthusiastic about maths for as long as I can remember, from counting my steps as I'd climb the stairs at the age of two, to studying the intricacies of quantum teleportation at 22.

"For me one of the best things about maths is that it always holds a new challenge, however good you feel your maths brain is.

"Whether it's keeping your mind active with a sudoku on the train, or building your very own theoretical time machine, the mental stimulation is something that everyone can

enjoy.
"The greatest inventions of our time would not have come about without some very clever scientists and behind those scientists, some

equally clever mathematicians.
"Without maths and science there would be



IT ALL ADDS UP: Countdown brainbox Rachel Riley with Rochester Grammar girls at the science fair

no Finding Nemo, no online shopping and no television to watch Countdown on - how dull life would be.

"Exciting new fields of maths such as mathematical biology and environmental mathematics are now greatly affecting the world we

"Highly sophisticated mathematical models, which may be too expensive or even impossible to recreate in the real world, are providing scientists with invaluable insights into some of the most serious problems we face today such as cancer and climate change.

"It is essential we continue to have our top people working on solutions and innovations for the future, and if they have time to develop a human teleportation device that might be

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Each week we get a mystery writer to air their views on living in Medway...

Why adding an extra dimension is spoilt by zero specs-appeal

IF YOU listen to some industry experts, the future for technology is likely to be leaping out and biting us on the nose before too long. Almost literally.

Because 3D is back for the 21st century and, it seems, rather than pure novelty, it could actually become a vital ingredient in the way we consume entertainment media over the coming years.

Already there are some big names looking to bring some stand-out action to the big screen.

Steven Spielberg, a man with a fine history in generating a few bob for hungry film studios, is working on 3D movies, and George Lucas has long been rumoured to be working on transforming the Star Wars flicks into 3D, too.

Which, if nothing else, would at least allow everyone to punch Jar Jar Binks on the nose when his face looms out of the screen. Video games would appear to be embracing it, too. Rumours have long circulated that the next generation of consoles may come complete with games capable of adding that all-important extra dimension.

The question is, will it really work? And the answer is probably only briefly.

There comes a point where consumers are fed up having to upgrade their equipment to accommodate the latest technological breakthrough.

First we had CDs replacing vinyl and tape. Then it was MP3. Televisions were once fat. Now they're flat. And high definition, too. And let's not get started on the great digital switchover.

But the biggest stumbling block, above and beyond all the technical upgrades will be perhaps the simplest piece of gadgetry ... the humble 3D glasses.

Those of a certain age will remember a time in the early Eighties when there was a brief flurry of excitement over 3D. There were some shows on TV and Jaws 3 became Jaws 3D. The only problem was having to wear these horrible glasses with red and green sweet wrappers (so it seemed) for lenses.

Don't get me wrong, the effects were impressive. And watching Jaws 3 now is most amusing as severed limbs float pointlessly in the middle of the screen for far too long. Trust me, you had to be there. It did once float out and settle in your popcorn.

No-one liked wearing the glasses then, and no-one will really like wearing glasses again. And why would you?

They looked ridiculous. So let's not hear talk of how we must all brace ourselves to buy 3D enabled TVs or what have you.

We all have 3D eyes – and that's good enough for me.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

GET IN TOUCH...

We want to hear your views



EMAIL: Letters, comments, views (along with your name) to: yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk



TEXT: MEDW then your message to: 81800 (please remember to include you name)

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If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, Jon Coates, on 01303 817048 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Medway blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the news editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

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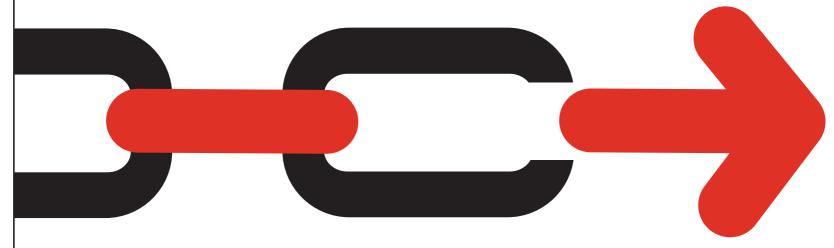
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yourcompetition

Serving up a tasty Easter dish

TURKEY is not just for Christmas – with its variety of different cuts and uses, it's the perfect meat to enjoy all year round.

So with Easter just round the corner why not serve up a delicious turkey roast for all the family to enjoy?

Turkey is the only meat classed as a superfood and being low in fat as well as high in nutrients, vitamins and protein, it's no wonder why. It looks fantastic on the table, is easy to prepare and is enjoyed by young and old alike.

If you don't fancy cooking a whole bird, there are plenty of other turkey joints to choose from including a boned and rolled breast and an easy to carve crown.

After a wholesome turkey meal it's time to kick back and finish the day with a cup of tea and some delicious Easter cake.

To make cooking your turkey meal even easier, you will need some aluminium foil — BacoFoil is the strongest and most trusted brand, and is available in Extra Thick (ideal for grilling), Classic and Non-Stick varieties (ideal for everyday use) to make cooking and roasting fuss-free.

Additionally, BacoFoil Non-Stick makes your recipes even healthier as its unique coating means there's no need for additional fat or oil,



it instantly reduces fat content withou

so it instantly reduces fat content without compromising on taste or appearance. Plus, as food doesn't stick to BacoFoil Non-Stick, the turkey comes out looking perfect.

We have teamed up with British Turkey and BacoFoil this Easter, to offer five of you the chance of winning a great prize. You could get your hands on some fantastic aluminium BacoFoil roasting trays and a roll of the all important extra strong BacoFoil Roasting Foil to help cook the turkey, as well as a beautiful tiered china cake stand and BacoFoil baking paper so you can enjoy an Easter tea in style. Also included are a British Turkey apron, shopping bag and copy of The Little Book of Great British Turkey Recipes.

To have a go at winning the lot all you have to do is simply answer the question below and



send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Easter Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. The closing date is April 10, 2009.

Question: Which is the only meat classed as a superfood?

For great recipe ideas to serve this Easter go to www.britishturkey.co.uk/recipes.

To check out the entire Baco range and download your 20p off coupon log on to www.baco.co.uk.

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.





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TALK TIME

JANE MARTIN

The Tours of the Realm owner took the time to talk to Yourmedway about setting up and running her own tourist company.



Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I was born and brought up in Kent. I have been married to John for 31 years and we have spent most of our married life living in different parts of the world.

While abroad I spent a great deal of time taking our visitors on tours of the areas where we were living. I always tried to make sure we saw not only the tourist sites but also the hidden treasures that were off the beatence. With a lifelong interest in history and my experience of showing visitors around, my dream was to become a driver/guide and have a company of my own.

What is Tours of the Realm?

It offers sightseeing tours of rural and historic Britain to small and exclusive groups of up to five people with a particular focus on Kent and the South East.

Your job is touring Kent so you must have seen lots of places. What is your favourite part of Kent?

I love the Weald with its lovely old villages, windy lanes, world-renowned gardens and beautiful countryside. On the other hand, Romney Marsh is fascinatingly enigmatic whatever the season and you can't help being drawn into it. Walking along the White Cliffs from St Margaret's to Walmer is continually awe inspiring and I totally understand why Charles Dickens particularly loved this walk.

Kent has so much to choose from that it's impossible to have a favourite area!

How can people contact you to book a tour?

My website is www.toursoftherealm.com, you can email enquiries@toursoftherealm.com or call 07595 769615.

YOUR LETTERS

We had to vote against the budget

This week Medway residents will find their council tax bill arriving through the letterbox, with the unwelcome news that charges will be going up by nearly five per cent – nearly twice the rate of inflation.

As your council tax is going up by so much more than the rate of inflation, you would expect that costs would be frozen, or that services would be greatly improved. However, the Tories voted through 20 per cent increases in fees for adult learners, and for residents/visitors parking permits.

These permits have increased from £10 to £25 in only three years, despite the Tories promising they'd keep costs down.

The most disgraceful increase, however, was the 40 per cent increase in Meals on Wheels.

That's an extra £10 per week for many who can ill afford it.

At the same time the Labour proposal to provide one hour's free parking in all car parks was voted down, leaving residents with only the vague promise from the Tories to allow a couple of days' free parking around Christnes

The Labour group will always vote against unsustainable budges that contain price hikes that seem designed to hit the most vulnerable in our society.

It is also a nonsense for the Tories to say that Labour group members don't support spending on schools or transport when we vote against the budget – the



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

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And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest news from across Medway as well as our villages.

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vote is on the whole budget not on each item separately.

Unless, of course, the Tories believe David Cameron wants to dismantle the NHS, sack every police officer and close down every single care home, because the national Conservative Party have voted against every Labour budget?

Clir Bill Esterson, Labour member for River Ward on Medway Council, by email.

Hopefully things can't get any worse

Jobs reality worse than you think

I'm afraid unemployment is even worse than Philip Menzies imagines (letters page April 1 issue). The real figure is conveniently

The real figure is conveniently separated into different categories, so the truth is hidden.

The true figure of some six million is made up of those they admit to being unemployed, over a million on Job Seekers allowance, millions on incapacity benefit and almost a million lone parents deemed not to be in "the field of work". In total, around 20 per cent of Britain's working-age population. That's why taxes are so high!

These figures were frightening before the current Depression, now they are positively alarming as we are starting to see strikes and demonstrations.

As usual, governments afraid to take the proper action necessary and face up to reality have just been storing up even worse problems for the future.

Phil Granger, by email.

Potholes putting our lives in danger

The state of Kent's roads leave much to be desired.

As a cyclist I can vouch for the fact that the potholes in the



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roads are a continuing problem and seem to be getting wors

They are a danger to life and limb at a time when people are being encouraged to leave their cars at home and get on a more eco-friendly form of transport.

George Cornwallis By email

Time to draw a line under easy exams

I was interested to see the exam questions which are being set for children across the UK in the current round of tests.

One of them asked for lines to be drawn to connect a natural material with where it comes from. Wool to sheep was one answer, another was cotton to plants and the third was silk to insects.

The other alternative provider options included crocodiles.

Now, who can read this sort of thing and not think these exams are being dumbed down?

The questions were meant to be answered by 16-year-olds so it wasn't as if they were set for young children.

For too long people have meekly accepted the assurances that children's results are getting better and schools are improving.

This just shows that is not the case at all. What is actually true is that anyone can pass an exam.

> Mary Newsome By email

Please volunteer to run 4 healthy cause

We would like to ask any of your fitness-minded readers to run for Meningitis UK in this year's Great North Run. General public entries are now full but we still have a few sought-after places left in our Meningitis Musketeers team for the world's biggest half marathon on September 20.

Meningitis UK has a single focus to find a vaccine to eradicate all forms of meningitis. Tragically, meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia continue to affect thousands of people in the UK every year and kill more children under five than any other infectious disease.

Our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign aims to raise £7million to fund research into eradicating meningococcal group B - the most common form of meningitis in the UK. This accounts for almost 90 per cent of all cases and there is currently no vaccine.

Everyone who runs for Meningitis UK will be part of the Meningitis Musketeers team, with the motto 'All 4 One and One 4 All' - to highlight the devastating fact meningitis can kill in under four hours and the importance of our campaign.

Full support will be given and everyone who participates will receive a free Search 4 a Vaccine running vest or T-shirt, and a handy information pack including hints and tips on how to prepare.

If you would like to take part and help us achieve our vision, please contact me on 0117 302 6191 for a sponsorship pack. We look forward to hearing from you.

> Events fundraiser. Meningitis UK



Clarification of comments in letter

We would like to make it clear that a letter from Cllr Stephen Hubbard printed in last week's paper about a council meeting discussing demolishing Strood Civic Centre included council leader Rodney Chambers saying local agents would be consulted about interest in converting the Aveling & Porter building for residential use.

This statement was omitted in the process of cutting down his letter from 900 words to 400 words to fit in the page.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused to Cllr Hubbard.

The Editor.

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Evolution II manual carpet sweeper

A must have for every home Ewbank have been producing non-electric carpet sweepers for over a century and their products are still regarded as the best in the world.

This Evolution II manual carpet sweeper is no exception. Just as you would expect, it is lightweight and easy to use. It needs no electricity and is an easy and convenient way to clean your carpets and floors at a moment's notice.



The long life natural bristle brush efficiently sweeps up crumbs and dirt left behind by children and pets and the large capacity dustpan is easy to empty. Other features include a soft furniture guard and it also automatically cleans its own brushes. The Evolution II is available in silver for £29.99 and makes a perfect companion for your vacuum cleaner.

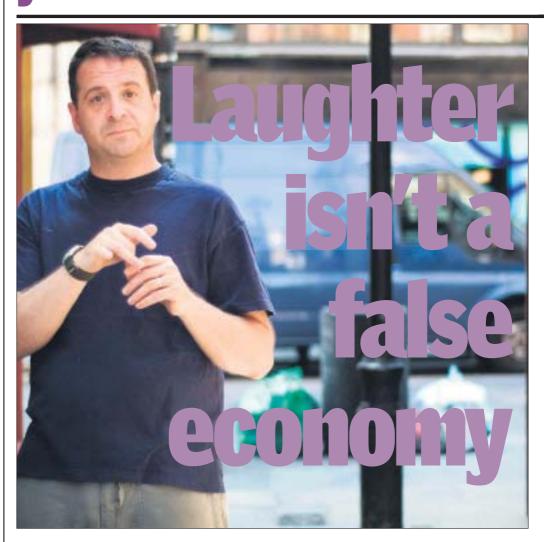
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yourleisure



Political activist and funnyman Mark Thomas is touring his latest show, It's the Stupid Economy! and wants your input to create a People's Manifesto to help the country

AFTER nearly 25 years of making people laugh and think at the same time, Mark Thomas is still making waves in the world of politics.

In his latest show, It's The Stupid Economy!, Thomas sets out to meet the people and gather together collective ideas about how we could make our country better. The comedian aims to create a People's Manifesto, which he will then 'road test' and see if he can make these ideas into reality.

Each audience will be asked to put forward its favourite ideas for dealing with the broken economy and the environment, giving Thomas something to work from as he attempts to bring about real change.

He is no stranger to making things happen, having been instrumental in bringing about a change in inheritance tax laws in 1998. Thomas fronted an investigation for Channel 4's Dispatches which uncovered the ways in which wealthy people had been avoiding inheritance tax by making their homes, art and furniture available for public viewing —

without telling anyone about it. In the following budget, the then-Chancellor Gordon Brown changed the law.

Born in South London in 1963, Thomas studied theatre arts at university and performed shows in miners' soup kitchens and fundraising events during the strike. Since taking to the stage as a comic in 1985, he has become arguably one of Britain's most prominent political activists.

With seven series of his own show, The Mark Thomas Comedy Product, on Channel 4 and a regular column in the New Statesman magazine, Thomas has made a career out of exposing injustice and scandal. His investigations have covered such diverse subjects as the use of torture and UK equipment in East Timor, Nestle's change of labelling on baby milk in Africa, Coca Cola and the Immigration and Asylum Bill.

Immigration and Asylum Bill.

His activities reportedly led to a prominent politician asking civil servants to 'dig the dirt' on Thomas in 2001, but he has continued to investigate and demonstrate about issues such as anti-terror laws, arms dealing and nuclear weapons inspections.

In 2005 he became the Guinness

World Record Holder for the most political demonstrations in 24 hours. Other accolades include a Sony Radio Award, the UN Association Global Human Rights Defender Award, the Kurdish National Congress Medal of Honour and a Time Out Comedy Award. The third series of his television show received a special commendation at Amnesty International's media awards in 1999.

Last year Thomas was made an honorary doctor by Bradford University for his services to peace and his contribution as a comedian, political activist, presenter and investigative journalist, particularly for his campaigning on the ethics of the arms trade.

Mark Thomas will be at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury on Thursday, April 23; the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone on Tuesday, April 28 and the Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday, June 30.

MARK THOMAS

Various dates various venues



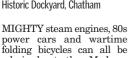
JANE CONNOLLY





FESTIVAL OF STEAM AND TRANSPORT

Sunday, April 12 and Monday, April 13 Historic Dockyard, Chatham

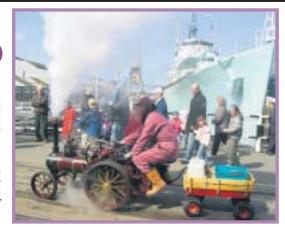


power cars and wartime folding bicycles can all be admired at the Medway Festival of Steam and Transport.

One exciting addition this year will be the Extreme Globeriders, whose thrilling antics will amaze audiences as they pull off all kinds of breathtaking stunts inside a huge steel globe.
To mark the 25th anniver-

sary of the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust, there will also be a chance to step back in time to the 80s and see iconic vehicles from the A-Team, Dukes of Hazzard, Starsky and Hutch, Bullitt and the Blues Brothers.

From police vehicles and



commercial lorries to specially-built kit cars, exotic super cars and classic British models, there will be plenty to please any petrol head. There will also be lots more entertainment on offer all day with the river cruises, fairground dodgem, stalls and live music.

Tickets cost £11/£8.50 for adults, £7.50 for children and £32 for families. Return visits with 12-month tickets are not valid, but special discounts are on offer for 12month ticket holders. For more information call 01634 823800 or go online at www.thedockyard.co.uk.



STEP up to the coconut shy and indulge in all the fun of the fair at Fort Amherst this

The traditional, country-style Easter fair will feature an array of fun attractions, shooting gallery and coconut shy. There will also be an Easter hat parade, egg racing, the appearance of some authentic Napoleonic soldiers and lots more family fun on offer.

Visitors can take part in the free grand draw in the hope of winning the top prize - a signed official Arsenal team photograph. The event is run and funded by volunteers, so go along and support this fantastic community event

DINNERLADIES

Tuesday, April 14 to Saturday, April 18 Orchard Theatre, Dartford



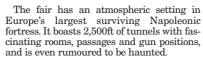
QUEUE up for a second helping of Dinnerladies as Victoria Wood's popular sitcom is brought to the stage.

Based on the second series of the hit BBC comedy, the show reunites two original cast members - Andrew Dunn and Shobna Gulati - and sees a new cast don the aprons of the hilarious lunchtime divas.

Set in the canteen of a fictional Manchester factory, Dinnerladies explores the daily dramas of the kitchen staff and other workers as they pass the serving hatch. The steady influence among the colourful characters is Bren, originally played by Wood, who puts up with the calamities and crises of Dolly, Jean, Twinkle and Anita. Viewers of the TV series were transfixed by Bren's reluctant romance canteen manager Tony (played by Dunn) and the hilarious behaviour of

EASTER FAIR

Friday, April 10 to Monday, April 13 Fort Amherst, Chatham



The Easter Fair will run from 10am to 4pm daily. Admission costs £4 for adults and £2 for children. More information about Fort Amherst can be found on the website at www.fortamherst.com.

her eccentric mother, Petula.

Other much-loved characters include Stan, the factory's uptight handyman and scatty

human resources manager Philippa.

Performances start at 7.45pm daily, with 2.30pm matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. Tickets are priced from £14.50 to



MEDWAY LEISURE

On track for some great music at Beacon Court

REDTRACK will be among the exciting bands performing at the Beacon Court Tavern in Gillingham next week.

The Southend band's first single was featured on Steve Lamacq's Radio 1 show, while live music fans might have seen them supporting The Maccabees and The View. See at the pub with Underground Heroes on Monday at 9pm. Tickets cost £5. Call 01634 853186.

Donn miss jazz night at the 4-4-Two club

THE Donn Barcott Band will be joined by a special guest at the regular jazz

night in Gillingham tomorrow.
Guitar and banjo player Bob Pluck will be performing with the band at the 4-4-Two club on the corner of Featherby Road and the A2. The concert takes place in the ballroom and doors open at 7.15pm.

Tickets cost £6 including a snack. Call Donn on 01634 405037.

It's a right good knees up at Dickens World

FOR good old-fashioned entertainment in the music hall format, visit Dickens World in Chatham on Saturday.

Ivy Paige's Knees Up is described as a Cockney cabaret extravaganza, featuring comedy, songs and lots of audience participation. Tickets for 5pm family show cost £6/£3, while 8pm adults-only show is £15 with three-course meal. Call 01634 890421 or visit www.dickensworld.co.uk.

Spotlite is on kids fun this Easter holidays

SPOTLITES Theatre Company presents a variety of interactive shows for chil-dren at Kings Theatre, Chatham, over

the Easter holidays.

Shows on offer during April include
Sleeping Beauty & The Time Lords and
Three Potter Pigs. Children can also take part in a number of events, all running at the Kings Theatre in High Street. See www.spotlites.co.uk or call 01634 403737.

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X

BY **ALISON PURDY**

WHEN I was told we were going for a walk in the island's interior on our first day on the South Pacific island of Tahiti, I imagined a gentle stroll through the lush green jungle that covers much of the island.

I hadn't imagined that a couple of hours later I would be waist-deep in gushing water dressed in a wet suit with a harness strapped round me, scrambling up a ravine.

Like most people, my image of Tahiti and her 118 islands scattered over five archipelagos in the South Pacific was of sun-soaked shores lined with bamboo bungalows perched on stilts

There's more to Tahiti's many islands

over turquoise-blue sea. I expected the sort of destination that mainly attracts honeymooners drawn to the island by its romantic isolation.

That is certainly on offer. However, as my day spent clambering up a volcanic lava-tube and hoisting myself up waterfalls proved, there is far more to the islands.

I had never been canyoning before and the experience was both terrifying and exhilarating. When I did manage to look up from where I was putting my feet, I was stunned by the incredible beauty that surrounded me.

Green mountains densely covered in what looked like large broccoli heads sloped up to

the sky. Below, the land dropped down dramatically to the sea.

In an effort to promote Tahiti's unique cultural identity, the Radisson Plaza Resort Hotel in the bustling capital city Papeete, has its own full-time 'cultural animator' who puts on daily demonstrations of traditional dance and crafts as an introduction to Tahitian culture.

The day after our canyoning adventure, we boarded a sea catamaran for the half hour trip from Tahiti to the even greener island of Moorea. The island's Sofitel beach resort does live up to the honeymoon brochure billing with individual bungalows all either standing on

stilts over the water or lining the beach front with the most breathtaking ocean views.

Our next stop was the geographicallyunusual island of Rangiroa – which consists of a string of coral encircling a turquoise lagoon and is one of the world's most popular diving destinations and famous for the black pearl.

Tahiti and her collection of islands may be the epitome of the South Seas holiday hideaway – but those keen to do more than lie on the beach enjoy a fantastic choice of leisure options, from scuba diving to hiking in the mountains and searching for that elusive and perfect black pearl.





FACT FILE: TAHITI

Time difference	-11 hours (GMT)			
Language	French			
Largest city	Papeete			
Population	178,130			
Currency Pacific Franc	(approx 130 to £1)			
Religion	Christian			
Climate	Tropical			

Travel details

Alison Purdy flew to Papeete with British Airways and Air Tahiti Nui via New York and LA and she was a guest of Radisson Plaza Resort, Tahiti, Sofitel Moorea Beach Resort, Moorea and Raira Lagon, Rangiroa.

Operator Turquoise Holidays offers a 10-night package to Tahiti from £2,295 (two sharing), including Virgin flights ex-Heathrow to Papeete with Virgin and Air Tahiti Nui (via LA), three nights at Radisson Plaza Tahiti (room-only), four nights at Sofitel Moorea (room only), three nights at Relais de Josephine (half-board), domestic flights, transfers.

Leisure activities include a day's canyoning bookable through Mato-Nui Excursions, with picnic, £73; Moorea Hiking is booked directly through Tohie'a Excursions; hike to pass of the three pine trees, with picnic, £43; snorkelling at Blue Lagoon on Rangiroa, £44.

Turquoise Holidays reservations: 01494 678 400 and www.turquoiseholidays.co.uk.

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- Book reviews
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Sand Bay Resort, Somerset

4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD

June 8 to 12; June 15 to 19; June 22 to 26

SELF DRIVE



Enjoy a summer holiday by the sea on the Somerset coast. Set in 17 acres of landscaped gardens near a long sandy beach, Sand Bay is a couple of miles from Weston-Super-Mare. Leisure facilities include an indoor swimming pool. Each evening there is entertainment featuring the Best of British comedy and tribute acts. Accommodation is in single-storey en-suite chalets with colour TV and tea/coffee tray. Sand Bay is a few minutes from Junction 21 of the M5, offering easy access from all over the country. As a self-drive visitor, you'll find Sand Bay is well-placed to visit a host of West Country attractions. The cities of Bath, Bristol & Wells are a short drive and offer a wealth of diversity from Brunel's steam ship, the SS Great Britain (in Bristol), the ancient Roman Baths (in Bath) and Britain's most beautiful cathedral (in Wells). There's plenty of unspoilt coastal scenery nearby, from the sandy beaches of Burnham and Weston Super Mare to the dramatic cliffs and coves of the Exmoor coast. **PRICE INCLUDES:** 4 nights in a twin or double en-suite chalet

• 4 dinners & 4 breakfasts • Entertainment every evening

Isle of Wight Summer Holiday at Warner Norton Grange

4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Monday, July 13 to 17 Tour NS7 SELF DRIVE

6269

R FERRY INCLUDED



Set among landscaped gardens, Norton Grange has a distinctly tropical feel. The resort overlooks the Solent and has a wide range of activities on offer, including a heated indoor pool, all-weather bowls, a fitness studio, archery, snooker, darts and more.

Live nightly entertainment includes cabaret and dancing with Warner's in-house entertainment team and visiting artists to add variety. We've added a 50p bar from 12 noon to 11pm every day for house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee. Accommodation is in en-suite chalets located near the entertainment and restaurant venues. All chalets have a colour TV and hospitality tray.

PRICE INCLUDES: 4 nights in a twin/double en-suite chalet
• 4 dinners & 4 breakfasts • 50P bar every day - from 12noon to
11pm - includes house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee • Live cabaret entertainment • Self drive with car ferry included

Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange

3 NIGHTS ALL INCLUSIVEFriday, November 27 to 30
Tour NP11

SELF DRIVE

E179

CAR FERRY INCLUDED



Enjoy an early taste of Christmas at our Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange. You'll find a fun-filled party atmosphere with festive food and entertainment and we've included a **Free Bar** every day to help the party go with a swing. You'll enjoy the traditional Warner benefits of quality accommodation and a proper breakfast and 3-course dinner each day and live entertainment every evening.

PRICE INCLUDES: 3 nights in a twin/double en-suite chalet

• 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts * lunch not included • Free bar every day - from 3.30pm to 11pm on Day 1 and 12noon to 11pm on subsequent days (not departure day) - includes house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee • Festive food & live entertainment • Self drive with car ferry included





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GET ready for the sun with Superdrug's offers on selected lotions.

A 200ml bottle of Ambre Solaire moisturising milk at factor 20 is buy-one-getone free at £9.97, while factor 50 Solait kids lotion has the same offer at £7.97 per bottle.

Superdrug's own Hayfever allergy relief tablets are £2.34 for a pack of seven, or buy two for £2.99, at the Hempstead Valley, Gillingham High Street and Pentagon Centre stores

Pimp your PC with new technical equipment

SAVE on IT costs when you shop at WH Smith for technical accessories.

A Logitech E1000 webcam is 75 per cent off at £8.56, while a matching PC headset for use with free online phone

service Skype is £12.49.

A Lexmark X3650 printer, which is also a scanner and copier machine, is 50 per cent off at £49.99, while digital photo frames start from only £34.26, at the Pentagon Centre, Hempstead Valley and Gillingham High Street stores.

Don't leave out the cats and dogs this weekend

WHEN all the family is enjoying Easter do not forget your furry friends.

Chocolate is toxic to dogs and cats, so Pets At Home has produced a special range of chocolate-free Easter eggs for cats, dogs - available in both adult and puppy sizes - and small animals such as

Priced from £1.99, there is a delicious treat for even the smallest member of the family at the Horsted Retail Park store

Spend an evening with morning fitness expert

LEADING fitness, diet and lifestyle expert Joanna Hall visits Champneys in Tunbridge Wells next Wednesday.

The former This Morning guru will be giving two talks about topics such as how diet and walking can combine to achieve good health and weight loss.

The event runs from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on April 15. There will be time for a Q&A session, refreshments and a mini facial or hand massage. Tickets cost £12.50. See www.champneys.com for details

Sign up for the secrets of good skin in store

SKINCARE specialist Liz Earle will be signing copies of her new book at Bluewater next week.

The author, TV presenter and health and beauty specialist reveals the key to her radiant look in Liz Earle: Skin Secrets.

She will be appearing at the Waterstone's store from 5.30pm on Thursday, April 16.

Liz Earle: Skin Secrets is published by Kyle Cathie and priced at £19.99.

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Barbara Coker on **01303 817072**



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The set of **two pairs** of Secateurs are on offer for just £16.99 – a saving of £8 on the **manufacturer's RRP.** Wolf set of bypass & anvil secateurs £16.99

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YOUR TV REVIEW

BY TOM BETTS

PRIMEVAL ITV1, 6.15pm, Saturday **ROBIN HOOD** BBC One, 7.45pm, Saturday

IT'S very difficult to know what ITV is up to with Primeval, other than copy Doctor Who as much as it possi-

bly can, of course.

Each time I've tuned into this programme over the course of the past few series the plot has been almost the same as the last time.

The basic scenario revolves around these basics: Lots of running around, time portal or wormhole opens up, big beast of some kind smashes stuff up, more running around, thing is killed or disappears back through portal, every one breathes a big sigh

of relief and has a nice sit down. Intersperse that with Hannah Spearritt, the girl who used to be in S Club 7 – you know, the really boyishlooking one – appearing as confused as the viewers while spending a lot of time in sports leisurewear.

This doesn't add up to a masterpiece. Okay, so it may not try to be anything other than throwaway TV, but sometimes you feel like the writers of this have just given up and opted for the same story each and every week.

While Doctor Who episodes can vary wildly in quality (largely depending on who's penned it) this never lifts itself above banged-together-by-a-bunch-of-sixth-formers level.

The special effects are hardly Jurassic Park either.

I'm afraid to say the makers of this one have got dinosaur pie all over

Over on BBC One, meanwhile, Robin Hood has returned to our Saturday nights to rob from the rich to give to the poor once again. Mind you, this is another half-



WOOD YOU BELIEVE IT? Jonas Armstrong plays the lead role in BBC drama Robin Hood

hearted effort that has never really taken off and looks like it will crash off our screens next year.

There's something about the lead, Jonas Armstrong, that doesn't really gel. He seems far too young and neither cuts a dash or could bowl a maiden over.

Looking more like the lost Gallagher brother than a hero of folklore who could lead Sherwood Forest's finest into battle, it shows that if your main man is flawed then it's going to be hard work getting the

I know that personal hygiene may not have been as high on the agenda as it is now, but a shave and haircut wouldn't go amiss, Robin.

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19) RESIST the urge to go on a spending spree. You need to hang on to your cash now. There will be plenty of time to buy what you want soon. If you're having a hard time making ends meet, this would be a good time to return to school. Don't underesti-

mate the importance of diplomacy. • To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aquarius 09067-531762

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21) DON'T let friends push you into a decision you'll later regret. You're the type who likes to think things through so rushing into a situation will only create more stress. It's especially important to take your time with a new romance. You could finally get word about a new job.

• To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Taurus 09067-531753

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23) TENSIONS are mounting between you and a prospective partner. In many ways this seems like the worst time to launch an affair. You have so many financial and work responsibilities. What you fail to realise is that you need to balance work with play.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Leo 09067-531756

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22) ALL is not fair in love and war. Beware of engaging in underhanded behaviour, or it will come back to haunt you. If you're in love with someone who is obsessed with somebody else, stay calm. The tide will turn in your favour, provided you refrain from jealous displays.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Scorpio 09067-531759

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20) AN angry outburst could drive a romantic partner from your door. You need to learn how to express your frustrations in a healthier way. Right now you tend to bury your feelings until they fester and explode. This wreaks havoc on all of your relationships.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Pisces 09067-531763

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22) AN overbearing boss is making life tough. It gets you down you that you can't get up and leave this restrictive situation. Remember you have other responsibilities. By staying put, you'll be doing the wisest thing. The good news is that your love

life is getting better.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Gemini 09067-531754

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23) A BUSINESS or romantic contact is tired of you dragging your feet. Unfortunately, you are just not ready to make a serious commitment. It's better to break things off now, before either one of you becomes too fully invested in this relationship. A financial matter is music to your ears.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Virgo 09067-531757

SAGITTARIUS (Nov23-Dec21) HIDDEN resentments are coming to the surface. You're tired of obeying a stuffy per-

son's orders. Quitting a dead-end job may be the best course of action. If you're looking for a better opportunity, spread the word among friends. Who you know is more important than what you know.

· To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Sanittarius 09067-531760

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20) DON'T push your luck at work. Although a colleagues methodical approach annoys you, it's essential the two of you get along. Putting them under pressure will backfire. Actually, you could benefit by adopting some of their vigilance. A relationship is coming to fruition.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on Aries 09067-531752

CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23) YOU have to be very careful when dealing with legal and financial paperwork. Answer every question. If you don't know how an entry should be phrased, check with the authorities. A domestic problem could finally be resolved. The result helps you to make a lifestyle change.

• To find out more about what the stars have in

store call Russell on Cancer 09067-531755

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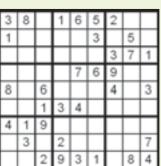
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CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Angela met hysteria about purple gem (8)
- **6** Springy? (6)
- 9 It is light yellow and soft in marshy ground (6)
- 10 Many a caper by the Parisian in song (8)
- 11 Ought enemies be removed from place for public worship?
- 13 Shoot, say, the rapid (5)
- 14 Engagement involved both later (9)
- 17 Would it foil attempts to catch it? (9)
- 19 Hebridean island with no priest? (5)
- 21 Post for 25% of the employees (12)
- 24 Very modern step wise man concealed (5-3)
- 25 Royal colour (6) 26 Team from Plymouth, we hear, or Lochgilphead area (6)
- 27 Risked including Kenneth when it became more gloomy

DOWN

- 2 Thousand unwell at the plant (4)
- **3** It displays the bill of fare (9)
- 4 Rodney floundered in the distance (6)
- **5** A lightweight slab of clay outside that can be perceived by touch (7)
- 6 Sour-tasting wine from France eg Ray rejected (8)
- 7 Greek character included fashionable beast! (5)
- 8 Sailor who is fit? (4,6)
- 12 Rider to display item of clothing (10)
- 15 Military unit's job supporting church (4-5)
- 16 Nevertheless seeking a monopoly (5,3)
- 18 Stop payment we object during pay out (7) 20 Pre-arranged strike first using electronic device (6)
- 22 In a trick you caught little Richard (5)
- 23 Sad sportsman (4)

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No81

5 4 6 9 8 7

3 9 8 4 5 1 2

6 2 5

6 4 8

FASY

OUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- 1 Persuasive (8)
- **6** Develop (6)
- 9 Spray liquid (6)
- **10** Dirtiest (8)
- 11 Monitor lizard (6,6)
- 13 Brown pigment (5)
- 14 Pretender (9)
- 17 Teaching area (9)
- **19** Backbone (5)
- 21 Sweet coloured nut (6.6)
- **24** Kerosene (8)
- 25 Hate (6)
- 26 7enith (6)
- 27 In transit (2,3,3)

HARD

2 5 3

9 8 4

DOWN

- 2 Northern Scandinavian (4)
- **3** Speed (9)
- 4 Skin disease (6)
- 5 Faint-heartedly (7)
- 6 Scenery (8)
- 7 Porcelain (5)
- 8 Bad luck (10)
- **12** Improve (10)
- 15 Disown (9) 16 Pierce through (8)
- 18 Resort in Florida (7)
- 20 Drinking-cup (6)
- 22 Delta (anag. (5)
- 23 Order to stop) (4)

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No81

ACROSS: 1 Sky-sign 5 Tell off 9 Baku 10 Suspension 12 Low-level 13 Theist 14 Hundred Years 17 Aladdin's lamp 21 Idiocy 23 Embossed 24 Ventilator 25 Tizz 26 In place 27 Hayride. **DOWN:** 2 Klaxon 3 Squelched 4 Gas oven 6 Ejected 7 Lisle 8 Footsore 11 Self-respect 15 Expositor 16 Bludgeon 18 Idyllic 19 Alberta 20 Seized 22 Octal

QUICK SOLUTION No82

Goblet 22 Dealt 23 Whoa. Repudiate 16 Transfix 18 Orlando 20 7 China 8 Misfortune 12 Ameliorate 15 Quickness 4 Eczema 5 Timidly 6 Backdrop Vertex 27 On the way. **DOWN:** 2 Lapp 3 Jordan almond 24 Paraffin 25 Loathe 26 10 Muckiest 11 Komodo dragon 13 Umber 14 Hypocrite 17 Classroom 19 Spine 21 ACROSS: 1 Eloquent 6 Become 9 Spritz

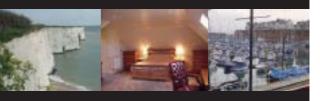


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Fine time for illegal foreign drivers

BY **STEVE KNIGHT**

LAW-breaking foreign drivers will finally have the book thrown at them after new powers were handed to the police.

For years non-UK citizens have got away with minor traffic offences because officers did not have the power to issue on-the-spot fines or add points to their licences.

However, reforms to the Road Safety Act 2006 introduced this week will now allow officers to do just that - with a maximum penalty of £900.

About three million foreign vehicles enter Britain annually, with many of them travelling through Kent after

arriving at the ports.

Between October 1, 2007, and September 30, 2008, foreign vehicles contributed to 72 accidents and 113 injuries on the county's roads.

Announcing the new powers, Chief Insp Roscoe Walford said: "The new law will help police deal more effectively with non-UK residents who commit driving offences.

Disinsentive

"The motoring public and general community have long wanted this. It provides a fairer system whereby all motorists are treated the same regardless of who they are and where they are from, and it brings us into line with other European countries.

"Many foreign drivers ignore our road rules because they know that even if they are caught, nothing will happen. But by hitting them in the pocket immediately, the new powers create a disincentive to break the law.

"If this saves one person from death or serious injury and one family from suf-fering the trauma of losing a loved one, the new law has done its job.'

During the 2007-08 financial year, 841 foreign drivers were caught by speed cameras on Kent's roads but none of

them received fines.
In contrast, 41,585 penalties were issued to British drivers. Officers were previously unable to issue fines to non-



FAIRER: New rules will mean all drivers on our roads can be penalised for all traffic offences

Reforms to allow police to punish all road users

UK citizens because there was no guarantee they would be paid within 28 days and there was no way of knowing if drivers had committed previous offences.

However, the new rules have changed all that and also now enable police to seize nonroadworthy vehicles or ones owned by foreigners who cannot pay their fine. They will also be able to add penalty points to a driver's licence for the first time.

The new powers were launched at the M20 services near Leeds Castle, with road safety minister Jim Fitzpatrick also in attendance.

He said: "We want to keep our roads as safe

as possible and these measures mean any driver who breaks the rules of the road will have to face the consequences.

"The only way for drivers and hauliers to avoid tough penalties will be to obey our traffic laws and ensure their vehicles are fully roadworthy.

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- Taking control of your debts and loans

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Essential guide to where you can save

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- Bourne Road Garage in Crayford is offering free car mats with all Mazda purchases new and used
- GC Stevens & Son garden machinery and Woodstoves store in Sittingbourne is offering 10 per cent off all garden machinery
- Oliver Carpets in Ramsgate and Herne Bay is offering 15 per cent off when you spend more than £600
- Spand Motors in Hythe is offering 10 per cent off MOTs when pre-booked
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering complimentary day pass for the Leisure Club
- Aylesford Self Storage in Aylesford is offering free man and a van for clients renting storage for longer than three months
- County Garage in Herne Bay is offering 15 per cent off any Ford accessories. Includes car mats, mudflaps, boot protectors, scuff plates, alloy wheels, roof bars, chrome tailpipe finisher, dog guards, roof boxes, parking sensors
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We have also included some top tips for individuals trying to balance their own books and plan for their safer financial future.

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Be prepared, it will be to your credit

By Tony Patey

EXPERTS are predicting that more than 40,000 companies will be declared insolvent during 2009 – a rise of 35 per cent in last year, and 62 per cent higher than in 2007.

To help ensure your firm doesn't become one of the victims, national insurance broker Bluefin Insurance Services, which has offices in Gravesend, Maidstone and Tonbridge, has drawn up a list of protection tips for recession-battered firms.

Peter Castle, executive director, pinpointed, for example, money owed as a crucial factor that could affect cash flow.

"Money owed may represent as much as 40 per cent of a company's actual assets.

"What would happen to your business if a major supplier or creditor went under? As insolvencies climb, having adequate credit insurance could mean the difference between your business surviving or failing."

your business surviving or failing."

His six top tips to keep one step ahead of the increased dangers facing businesses in 2009 are:

• Take a long-term view over redundancies. Cutting too much from your skills base may create irreversible workload pressures.



POCKET WATCH: Take appropriate steps to see your business survive economic downturn

- Ensure your business employs best practice in employment matters. Recent rises in statutory redundancy pay rates mean layoffs are more expensive than ever.
- Take care when changing your insurance cover, and do so only if you are sure it will not compromise your ability to win new business. Many organisations, particularly in the public sector, have strict insurance requirements included in their supplier contracts.
- Be realistic about any insurance premium savings obtainable from changes to your cover. Remember that legal and regulatory risk exposure does not recede in a recession.
- Don't give staff a reason to defect to rivals by cutting back on training and risk management. Dissatisfied staff are more likely to try to commit fraud, which is on the rise as the economy worsens.
- Credit insurance can provide vital protection from the potentially terminal disruption of bad debt and late payment. Make sure you have adequate cover.

Mr Castle said: "With professional advice, awareness of the risks ahead and perhaps just a little bit of luck, well-prepared businesses have every chance of surviving the downturn."

Your guide to get through the recession

A NEW guide to help businesses in Kent find their way through the economic crisis has been published by the South East England Development Agency (Seeda).

It's called Open for Business – A Guide to Business Support in the South East and it offers businesses a simple map to what is on offer through Seeda and its regional partners.

Seeda said it is working with Jobcentre Plus, the Learning and Skills Council and the Government's Real Help for Businesses Now scheme to provide help in areas from accessing finance through to tackling redundancy.

Many of these initiatives are available through Business Link, the Seeda-funded business support service, which also offers free business 'health checks'.

Jeff Alexander, Seeda's executive director for global competitiveness, said: "We are now focusing our efforts on helping South East businesses through these extremely challenging times.

"This package of measures can make a real difference, and thousands of businesses have already taken advantage.

"I would strongly urge any business feeling the effects of the downturn to get in touch with Business Link to see what help is available."

For further information, Business Link is on 0845 6009006.

For copies of the Open for Business booklet, send an e-mail detailing the number of copies required and recipient address to pressoffice@seeda.co.uk.

Seeda is a government-funded agency responsible for the sustainable economic development and regeneration of the South East.



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Ready for the new employment law?



Solicitor Nadia Omar offers this checklist for recession-hit firms who will also be facing new employment law rules coming in early in April

The New ACAS Code of Practice

The Employment Act 2008 will repeal the controversial statutory dispute resolution procedures.

It will be replaced by the new ACAS Code of Practice on disciplinary and grievance procedures.

This is expected to reduce the regulatory burden for employers and provide greater flexibility for managing workplace disputes.

The code only applies to disciplinary and grievance matters and does not apply to redundancy dismissals.

Employers are encouraged to resolve disputes informally and consider the use of mediation.

Employers should carry out the disciplinary and grievance process without delay and ensure all matters are fully

Failure to follow the disciplinary procedure will no longer render a dismissal automatically unfair and employers will not be penalised for technical breaches of the code.

Employers should beware: grievances have been extended to cover all concerns, problems or complaints, and employees no longer need to raise a grievance and wait 28 days prior to issuing a claim.

Tribunals will have the power to increase or decrease an award by 25 per cent for an unreasonable failure to comply with the code.

Trade union membership rules

The implementation of section 19 of the act will entitle a trade union to exclude or expel members who belong to a political party such as the BNP.

To safeguard individuals from arbitrary abuse, union rules must allow it, a fair procedure must be followed and it must not result in the loss of an individual's livelihood or other "exceptional hardship".

The low number of claims that are lodged

against unions for wrongful expulsion suggests that this amendment is unlikely to have much practical effect.

The Employment Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) (Amendment) **Regulations 2008**

The regulations remove a judge's discretion not to issue a default judgment if a response is not filed.

This makes it essential for respondents to file a response within the 28-day time limit. Failure to do so will bar the respondent from submitting a defence and may result in the claim being determined without a hearing.

The rules relating to the withdrawal and dismissal of claims have been clarified.

If a claim has been withdrawn,

respondents should apply to have the claim dismissed within 28 days. This will bar a claimant from re-lodging the claim.

Furthermore, proceedings which have been withdrawn and settled through ACAS will be automatically dismissed by the tribunal. This will avoid the need to make a separate dismissal application.

New rules on electronic communication will assist parties relying on evidence by disabled witnesses or those abroad who are unable to attend the hearing.

Employment Tribunals Act 1996 (Tribunal Composition) Order 2009

This will enable cases of unpaid holiday pay to be heard by an employment judge sitting alone.

Claims are usually heard by an employment judge and two lay members.

This order should result in such cases being dealt with faster and more efficiently.

 Nadia Omar is a solicitor in the employment department at law firm Thomson Snell & Passmore, which has offices in Tunbridge Wells

Taxman will be getting tough

KENT companies could soon find they're getting unexpected visits from the taxman as HM Revenue and Customs picks up tough new powers to enter business premises.

Steve Carpenter, manager at Maidstonebased DSH Chartered accountants and business advisors, warned: "From April 1, HMRC will have a new code of powers and penalties that will make it easier for them to obtain information and, if irregularities are found, to match a penalty to the seriousness of the mistake or omission."

The powers being given to HMRC, which aim to identify situations where there is a greater risk of mistakes being made in the completion of tax returns, will enable officers to:

 Obtain documents from a business at any time, even if a return has yet to be filed.



ADVICE: Steve Carpenter

- Request information from third parties, such as banks.
- Enter business premises to inspect the premises, business assets and documents.

Mr Carpenter continued: "Although genuine mistakes will not incur a charge, penalties will be charged as a percentage of any additional tax due and are banded depending upon circumstances.

"For example, if the mistake arises because you failed to take reasonable care in completing your tax return, the penalty will be up to 30 per cent, but if it is a deliberate understatement that you attempt to conceal, the penalty could be up to 100 per cent.

"The concept of 'taking reasonable care' is key to the value of the penalty and will vary from

taxpayer to taxpayer.
"A large company with its own accounts department will be expected to have a higher standard of accuracy in its record keeping than an individual, but both must keep adequate records to enable them to complete the required returns and to spot a significant error.

"The processes are becoming more structured and so, to avoid penalties in the future, it is important to ensure your records are adequate and to seek advice for your particular situation."

By PAM LOCH and ANDREW BAYJOU

EMPLOYERS need to brace themselves now for more employment law changes.

Some changes will have an impact on how businesses have to manage their employees, while others will result in a greater financial burden on businesses

On April 6 the Employment Act 2008 abolishes the much-criticised statutory disciplinary, dismissal and grievance procedures, and businesses will be required to comply with the new ACAS Code of Practice.

The code will not be legally binding but it will be regarded as best practice and it will be used to determine whether a fair procedure has been followed.

Defending an employment claim will become easier, though Employment Tribunals will no longer be compelled to decide that a dismissal was automatically unfair if the employer failed to follow one part of the old procedure.

Interestingly the code will not apply to all dismissals. For example it won't apply to redundancies.

There are also complex transitional provisions and employers should exercise caution and take early advice as a failure to follow the code could result in an employment tribunal increasing an award of compensation by up to 25 per cent.

Aside from the demise of the statutory procedures, other changes impacting on businesses from April 6 include increases in:

- Statutory Sick Pay to £79.15 a week
- Statutory Maternity, Paternity Adoption Pay to £123.06 a week.

These increases are in line with the annual changes the Government announces in these benefits and in certain cases the payments can be recovered from the Government, Rumours abound that statutory redundancy pay may be increased from the present cap of £350 a week but these remain rumours at present.

Aside from those benefits increasing, holiday entitlement is also increasing. From April 1 the



Businesses prepare for the tide of change

minimum paid holiday for workers increased to 5.6 weeks or 28 days each year. This should be pro-rated for part-time workers.

For businesses already offering workers 28 days including bank holidays there is no change.

For those that don't offer this at the moment though, they should review their terms and conditions to ensure 28 days holiday is the minimum entitlement.

April also sees the extension of the right to request flexible working to parents of children up to 16 years of age being introduced.

Businesses should ensure that their employment policies and procedures reflect this new right. Although it does not give a right to flexible working, businesses should prepare themselves for an increase in requests to work flexibly from employees with children

From April 6, a failure to pay the national minimum wage to workers could result in a criminal penalty and a claim for underpayment of arrears plus a financial penalty.

HM Revenue and Customs will have compliance officers with additional inspection powers to search, seize and remove documents.

National minimum wage offences will carry criminal penalties ranging from £100 to £5,000.

Some of these changes could have a negative impact on businesses and increase their costs at an already difficult time. However the abolition of the statutory procedures should be a very positive step for businesses going forward.

• Pam Loch and Andrew Bayjou of employment $law\ firm\ Loch\ Associates.$

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Renting or buying? Move your business into the right property

BY TONY PATEY

MANY firms battling the recession are thinking of moving – but a commercial property is a major undertaking not to be taken lightly as it can affect a company's growth for a long time.

Experts say there are as many opinions regarding buying or renting commercial properties as there are commercial properties - so before you decide which way to jump, your business should take into account its own strengths, weaknesses and future

What suits others won't necessarily suit you. Your premises may turn out to be your business's largest fixed asset, which makes your choice of whether to rent or buy property an important one.

There are many reasons for renting, including:

- Saving capital outlayFlexibility of location
- Savings on maintenance and other costs. As a rule of thumb, renting is a good option for new businesses as it cuts down on the capital outlay needed and potentially saves having to borrow as much capital from other

If you have a low cash flow and prefer to keep your property costs flexible, then renting may be the best option as it releases more money to invest in equipment, stock and employees' salaries.

Renting also enables your business the flexibility to relocate at relatively short notice should you need to expand or follow business trends.

The responsibility for maintenance, fix-tures and security also rest with the owner of the property, taking away the uncertainty of these costs and helping you to budget better.

One downside of renting is the possibility of future rent rises, so it is important to know how and when the rent will be reviewed, prior to signing the lease.

The main advantages of buying are:

- Owning an assetFlexibility of the space to suit the business
- Tax advantages

In the long term a property that has been purchased with a commercial mortgage has the potential to increase in value, which strengthens your assets.



EASY?: If you have a low cash flow and prefer to keep your property costs flexible, then renting may be the best option

A mortgage is usually the highest fixed cost of any business, so if you are a company with a good cash flow and relatively low fixed costs then purchasing a property may well be right for you.

When you own your commercial property you can develop the space as you require with the possibility of subletting any unused room, giving your business extra income.

Generally mortgage repayments are at similar levels to rental payments, and although mortgage interest rates may increase on a commercial mortgage these are tax-deductible.

When you own a property the possibility of large rent increases is removed, which enables you to budget better and provides greater security.

One of the downsides of buying is you'll need to come up with a large deposit, and in the initial stages of any business this money could be put to other more immediate business uses

It also becomes more difficult to relocate your business should circumstances change.

Getting out of a rental agreement is far easier and usually a lot quicker than selling premises or re-letting.





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Where there's a will there's a better way

WE can always be sure of two things – recession or no recession – and that's taxes and the Grim Reaper.

And in a time of economic turmoil you don't want your family having to cope with your tangled estate if you drop off the twig and don't leave a will.

Those of us who have come across the chaos which can happen when someone dies intestate invariably have some awful tales to tell of 'what went to whom' – and why.

Intestacy

With intestacy rules having changed recently, the picture is likely to become even more confusing, says Chatham-based law firm Stephens & Son.

Although people who inherit under the rules have not changed, the amounts involved have.

If you are married with children, the first £250,000 of your estate will now go to your surviving spouse, with the rest divided among your children.

However, the picture gets much more complex if you don't have a spouse or civil partner, or children – as surviving parents and siblings are then brought into the equation.

Ultimately, half-brothers and sisters and cousins can fall into the frame if there is no closer next of kin.

Stephens solicitor Caroline Brooks-Johnson

BY TONY PATEY

said: "Too many people still think that it doesn't matter to them what happens to their estate once they are dead and gone.
"In reality, it can be a costly and time-con-

"In reality, it can be a costly and time-consuming process for surviving relatives to deal with intestacy and all too often it leads to family disputes and bitter arguments.

"Making a will and keeping it up-to-date is the only sure-fire way of ensuring your legacy is left to those whom you want to inherit.

"Long-lost cousins that you fell out with more than 20 years ago often emerge from the woodwork when there's no will to be found. "If you die without a valid will your estate

"If you die without a valid will your estate will be administered in accordance with the intestacy rules.

"This is a statutory 'pecking order' which dictates who gets what from your estate and who is entitled to administer that estate.

"By their very nature the intestacy rules must be general and it therefore stands to reason that they will not be suitable for everyone."

Wills can be used to encompass not only who you would like to administer your estate upon your death and to list your beneficiaries, but also to appoint guardians of children under 18, make personal gifts (of jewellery, for example), set out your funeral wishes, incorporate tax saving measures and deal with a whole host of business and family matters.



BLACK AND WHITE: Making a will and keeping it up-to-date is the only way of ensuring your legacy is left to who you want

Essential guide to where you can save

- Avalone Flooring Ltd in Strood is offering 10 per cent off carpets
- Wells Clinic in Ashford is offering £25 off removal of skin tags, moles, verrucas, warts, red veins, cysts and skin peels
- KOS is offering an Alex classic light one of the world's best reading lights from £84.99 save up to £30
- Bones on Beds in Herne Bay is offering 10 per cent off mattresses
- KOS is offering a porous seepage hose, save time and money and use up to 70 per cent less water. From only £19.99 save £35 on RRP
- Brownhills Motor Homes in Canterbury is offering £507 to spend instore when you buy a new or used motorhome
- Blakes Hair & Beauty, Canterbury, is offering 50 per cent off first appointment (cut and style)
- KOS is offering luxury Egypitian cotton 400count percale bed linen. Save 40 per cent
- Theatre Royal in Margate is offering two tickets for £20 New English Contemporary Ballet, June 12
- KOS is offering a Karcher pressure washer kit £99.99 including free accessories save £116
- Lexterten furniture store in Westgate-on-Sea is offering £300 off all dining suite orders over £2,000
- Hobbs Parker car auctions company in Ashford is offering cars from £500 every Monday and Wednesday, Orbital Park Ashford

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Spring into Easter Friday 10th — Monday 13th April

Celebrate spring at Leeds Castle this Easter weekend with ducklings and young animals around the estate. Children can make animal masks, visit the Bunny Burrow or follow a trail through the grounds with chocolate treats for those who reach the end*.

* Small additional charge for trail. Subject to availability.

Get your Key to the Castle:

Adults £16.50, Seniors £13.50, Children £9.50

Every ticket is valid for one year.

Terms and conditions apply, see website for details. Grounds open at 10am.

Further events this year include:

National Police Dog Trials[†]

Henry VIII's Royal Jousting Tournament

26 – 31 May

Gardening & Craft Weekend

6 – 7 June

'Plant to Plate' Food Festival

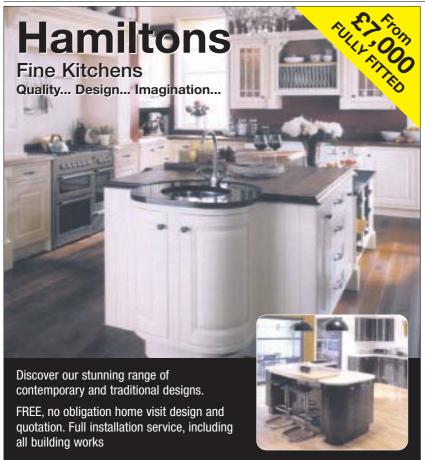
5 – 6 September

Family Fun Weekend with Jousting

19 – 20 September

[†] Admission to the trials is free but a valid 'Key to the Castle' ticket is required to gain entry to the castle and attractions.

Keep up to date with events by visiting www.leeds-castle.com



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Keep things sweet and safe at work

By **Tony Patey**

IN recession business can't afford to trip up – literally.

So Canterbury chocolate shop, Madame Oiseau, has teamed up with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to showcase good practice as part of an anti-slips, trips and

falls campaign.

Kent's HSE principal inspector, Mike Walters, said the food manufacturing sector is one of the high risk areas of work.

The new Shattered Lives campaign aims

to cut the number of slips, trips and falls in the workplace. Last year in Kent, 1,107 people suffered an injury because of these at

Madame Oiseau has a flawless health and safety record since setting up shop in 2005. To protect staff, the shop takes simple measures to clear up any spills immediately and keeps work areas clean and tidy.

The shop is a member of Produced in Kent, an organisation promoting local businesses and raising awareness of local food produce available to Kent's residents.

Mr Walters said: "It is good to see that a small business has put in place

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simple measures to help prevent this type of accident. "Workers at Madame Oiseau have adopted the

'see it, sort it' approach. If someone sees a spillage on the floor, they clear it up.



HEALTH AND SAFETY: Madame Oiseau has teamed up with the Health and Safety Executive to promote safety at work; and (below) chocolates from the shop

"This is a common-sense approach to a serious health and safety issue.

Sandrine May, owner of Madame Oiseau, said: "We are pleased to support this HSE campaign to encourage workplace safety.

"We are proud of our health and safety record and wish for other small businesses like ours to take note of the statistics and advice to ensure their staff are also safe at

Fatalities and serious injuries arising from slips, trips and fall incidents cost the South East around £78,615,000 last year.

Three people died and 1,830 suffered major injury as a result of a slip, trip or fall from height in workplaces in the

region last year.

A further 3,473 sustained injuries that kept them off work for three days or more.

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Keep good credit in tough times with these top tips

WITH the economy in decline, businesses should be concentrating on getting back to basics and revisiting well known and established ways of doing business successfully and economically.

Follow these top tips to help your business through the current challenges and make them standard practice in future:

Terms and conditions of business

- Review your existing terms and conditions to ensure your business is adequately protected, alternatively put fresh terms and condi-
- Ensure the 'battle of the forms' is won, impose your terms and conditions at each stage of the contract formation process, especially when providing samples and quotes.

 • In the event that delivered goods are not
- paid for, ensure they remain your property by including a 'retention of title' clause within your terms and conditions.
- Agree to the terms of payment before orders are placed, including both the time for payment and the right to charge for interest in the event of late or non payment. You have the option to charge interest for late payment of invoices either under the terms of the contract or under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.
- · Effective terms and conditions could save your business from becoming engaged in costly litigation.

By **KERRY POOLE** and **MARIE THERESE**

Receiving payment on time

- Issue clear and accurate invoices on time and always follow them up.Offer as many methods of payment as you
- · Send letters at predetermined intervals which ask for written confirmation of satisfactory delivery of the goods/services, indicate the amount outstanding, and demand payment in accordance with your terms.
- If you state that you will be instructing solicitors if payment is not received, make sure you do so and promptly. Your credibility is key to you getting paid.

 • Record the date and outcome of all contact
- made with the debtor.
- Be proactive and chase late payments, late payments and bad debts lead to liquidity and cash-flow problems, and may even force a business into insolvency.

 Good credit control

- Know your debtor do credit checks, stick to credit limits and monitor the behaviour of
- If you are having difficulty in recovering what is owed to you, seek assistance quickly.
- When dealing with outstanding payments decide whether it is worth a fight.
- Consider your customer and, if they are key to your business, approach it diplomatically.
- Listen to your debtor and, if there is a com-

- If you decide to instruct debt collectors ensure you make checks before using an agency.
- Find out what methods the agency uses. Maintaining business relationships and a good reputation are as important to your business as getting paid. Remember that unlawful methods such as harassment could lead to you being liable and can constitute a criminal offence.
- · Avoid the last resort. Explain what steps you intend to take and try to reach an agreement. Recovery without legal proceedings is invariably the most desirable option
- Always try to have a meaningful dialogue with your customer to find out why the debt has not been paid. If possible, consider offering instalments as a payment option. If you have a good system for dealing with debtors, paying someone else to collect your debts will hopefully be a rarely used last resort.
- · Managing credit and cash flow in tougher economic conditions is as important, if not more, as obtaining sales.
- · Make sure you take the time to deal with this critical issue.
- Lastly, make sure the payment terms you agree with your suppliers match, as far as possible, your own cash-flow forecasts. If your suppliers are reducing the credit period available to you then you will need to try to do the same with your customers.
 - Kerry Poole and Marie Therese, are solicitors in the corporate and commercial department at Thomson Snell & Passmore which has offices in Tunbridge Wells and Greenhithe.

To see this clip, search 'driving habits'

@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Julie Maddocks looks at how changing your driving habits could have a big effect on your pocket at the petrol pump

Essential guide to where you can save

- H&H Flooring in Deal is offering an extra 10 per cent off all carpets
- Avalone Flooring Ltd in Strood is offering 10 per cent off decorative flooring
- Avinco Limited aerial and satellite store in Ramsgate is offering 15 per cent off aerial installation
- GC Stevens & Son, garden machinery and woodstoves store in Sittingbourne is offering £10 off Honda mower servicing and £20 off Honda and Husqvama ride-on

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To see this clip, search 'clothes' (a) yourkentty.co.uk

Julie Maddocks discovers how charity shops let you make a fashion statement and save cash

Essential guide to where you can save

- Living Out log cabin store in Chestfield, Maidstone is offering 15 per cent off plus free delivery on all DIY log cabins
- County Garage Motors in Herne Bay is offering free protection pack worth up to £400. Free full tank of fuel, free Gard X Paint and interior protection, free front and rear mats, on all new or used vehicles
- Wells Clinic in Ashford is offering £50 off skin lifting and tightening lines and wrinkle treatments. Wrinkle reduction (b/tox)
- Baileys Nissan in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off all servicing

To get these offers go to: www.vouchersforkent.co.uk TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS

Drivers weigh poor savings returns against cutting bills

kudos to be had. The Government is using escalating road tax or VED (vehicle excise duty) to drive people into smaller and cleaner

A new scale of zero to £405/year came into

force on April 1 (see later story) and is set to

become tougher. By 2010, gas guzzling limos

or 4x4s may face £950 road tax in the first

year, although anyone spending £50-100,000

on a car is unlikely to be put off by such a pal-

BY STEVE LOADER

WITH savings accounts currently delivering such poor interest, many people see trading in a 'gas guzzler' for a cheaper and more economical model as a better return on their



cars too.

TREND: Government road tax as well as fuel costs is powering the downsizing trend favouring small cars like the lighter and greener Mazda2 supermini

sneaking below the 100g/km CO2 emissions mark and into band-A

Most manufacturers also now have an 'Eco' sub-branding for their lowest emission models - Vauxhall uses the ecoFLEX subbranding.

Brilliant as they are, 'eco' models often cost more since they have diesel engines and special 'green' features that do not yet deliver the economy of scale savings available to makers across the whole model range.

What is more, saving road tax is not such a great incentive when many conventional superminis sit in the lowest road tax band of £35 a year anyway; over three years with an eco model, saving £105 is irrelevant if you spend far more on buying that car in the first place and are then putting expensive diesel in the tank.

So, check out conventional equivalents of eco models and don't dismiss petrol power; that fuel is still cheaper and makes sense for lower mileage users, while emission and consumption levels are closing the gap on diesel

Diesel engines also tend to be heavier, so you could find yourself going through tyres more

Don't ignore alternative power options either, such as liquid petroleum gas (LPG) or hybrids.

Finally, just look again at what you have to part-exchange; you might have lost a packet in depreciation on that big 4x4, but work out what it will cost you to run it for the next three years - it might be a lot less than the cost of chopping it for a new car.

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nsumption figures in mpg (I/100km) for Soul range: Extra urban: 61.4 (4.6) - 48.7 (5.8); Combined: 54.3 (5.2) - 42.8 (6.6); Urban: 44.8 (6.3) - 35.3 (8.0).



BY **STEVE LOADER**

SAVE money by downsizing and running a cheaper car and then gain even more by smarter driving and journey planning.

For a start, you can save pounds and wear and tear on the car by avoiding short journeys and perhaps get fitter too by walking or cycling; a cold engine can produce 60 per cent more pollution than a warm one and a car used for many short journeys needs extra servicing and wears its engine out faster.

More fuel is wasted and higher emissions are also generated from a cold start – traffic on UK roads contributes 26 per cent of the nation's total carbon dioxide emissions (CO2).

However, if your car journey is a must then follow these tips from the IAM (Institute of Advanced Motorists) and RAC Foundation motoring watchdogs:

- Plan your route forethought can save wear and tear on car and driver. Try to take the most direct route a sat nav can help and go off peak if possible. If you have to commute, think about car sharing, Park and Ride' bus schemes or other public transport.
- Have your vehicle serviced regularly to maintain efficiency and economy. Under-serviced engines reduce fuel economy by ten per cent or more. Catalytic converters are environmentally friendly, but only when properly maintained.
- Check tyres under-inflated tyres need replacing more often (itself an environmental problem), are dangerous and waste fuel. Anybody who has cycled on 'flabby' tyres knows what extra effort is involved, so check pressures weekly.
- Obey speed limits to save money and stay legal. Try to 'feather' the throttle as you reach cruising speed; 56mph uses 25 per cent less fuel than 70mph and a smoother driving style will save fuel, but never coast in neutral or with clutch pedal depressed to save fuel vehicle control must not be compromised.



Clever driving is key to cheaper motoring

• Accelerate briskly without racing the engine – pulling away too fast uses up to 60 per cent more fuel. Intelligent gearchanges at modest engine speeds can cut fuel consumption by up to 15 per cent.

• Reduce drag – remove roof racks and carriers when not in use. Driving with windows open also mars aerodynamics and lowers fuel economy. Remove unnecessary and heavy boot luggage and avoid heavy accessories and wide tyres that add rolling resistance. Air conditioning lowers fuel economy so use the fan and vents unassisted as much as possible.

• Buy green fuel and use less. Seek out low sulphur diesel (City diesel) or cleaner petrol (low sulphur/aromatics) supplies locally. Consider a conversion to LPG (liquid petroleum gas), which is half the price of petrol, generates almost as much power and emits much less CO2.

• Use 'accelerator sense'. Do you go straight from accelerator to the brake? You save fuel if you plan ahead and, rather than have to brake as you hit traffic, gently let the speed of the vehicle bring you to a halt as you join a queue. There is no point in rushing and then having • Reverse in when you park. When you start off again, the engine is cold and inefficient. If you can drive away smoothly without having to reverse, you save fuel and have better visibility.

to brake suddenly.

 Be a tank miser. Why fill the tank to the brim and carry more weight than is necessary?

• If you are stuck in a jam then you are doing zero mpg – turn off the engine after two minutes to save fuel and emissions.

For more eco driving tips see Julie Maddocks' online video report at:

http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk/community.

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Is diesel demand

By Steve Loader

DIESEL has become the fuel of choice recently as UK buyers seek to cut costs, but do the sums still add up?

Its original appeal was the cheapness of the fuel, greater mpg and the better low down pulling power of the engines and their ability to meet tighter emissions legislation.

However, diesel now commands an increasing premium against petrol and there are doubts whether the engines can continue to meet ever tougher emission laws.

Meanwhile, petrol power has hit back with smaller, lighter and cleaner engines with turbocharging for extra flexibility, while there are other options emerging to save money and the

HYBRID

These partner conventional engines with electric units, but two powerplants and power supplies – fuel tank plus batteries – mean extra weight, while production complexity raises prices so buyers must cover many miles to balance this. Motorway mpg is also hardly better than a standard car.

Liquid petroleum gas (LPG) seems an excellent alternative fuel due to lower duty and emissions and cheaper car tax.

However, the calorific value and consequent mpg is slightly lower than petrol and it will cost at least £1,500 to convert an existing vehicle via an approved LPG Association oper-

There are many more LPG filling points

across the country than before though - Kent has some 40 LPG sites - and LPG costs about half that of petrol and diesel at the pump, emits about 20 per cent less CO2 than petrol and slightly less than diesel and with fewer NOx and particulates.

• ELECTRIC

These should be cheap to run, but battery technology cannot yet guarantee ranges to satisfy many would-be owners. There is the worry too that the car's emissions are simply transferred from an exhaust pipe to the chimney of a fossil fuel-burning power sta-

• BIOFUELS

Fuel derived partly from vegetable matter

appeals since plants absorb CO2 during growth and simply release it again when burned - a virtuous circle. Most road fuels sold in the UK will contain at least five per cent

biofuel by next year anyway, but there is concern that using arable land or forest to grow 'biofuel' plants will strain global food supplies.



TAX TIP: Diesel ecoFLEX versions of the Vauxhall Corsa qualify for the lowest payable road tax (£35) and return more than 60mpg on average

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A smoking exhaust can really damage your motoring wealth

By Steve Loader

GOVERNMENT efforts to use road tax to beat drivers into giving up so-called gas guzzlers have met with mixed success.

There can be no doubt that escalating tax or vehicle excise duty (VED) over the past couple of years has helped fuel downsizing, but there was outcry after the March 2008 Budget at 'draconian' rates to be applied to larger cars, especially with the recession looming.

Consequently, Chancellor Alistair Darling

backtracked last November and proposed amended charges from April 1, 2009 to soften the blow at the top end of the market, though the Government says VED will continue to be amended in future to maintain downward force in vehicle sizes and emissions.

They will also continue to be based on CO2 emissions rather than fuel consumption and apply only to cars registered after March 1, 2001; inconsistent emissions data on older cars means these are taxed simply at £120/year if the engine is 1,549cc or less and then £185 if it is above – something of a bargain for the owners of large older 'gas guzzlers' if they are content to bear higher fuel bills, opt for a £1,500-2,000 LPG (liquid petroleum gas)

conversion or cover relatively few miles.

The new rates are weighted even more in favour of the latest, cleanest and most miserly small cars.

Models emitting 100g/km of CO2 or less like the new Ford Fiesta ECOnetic, for instance, continue to qualify for Band A or zero rating.

The payable steps are: Bands B and C (101-120g/km) - £35 Bands D and E (121-140g/km) - £120 Band F (141-150g/km) - £125 Band G (151-160g/km) - £150 Bands H and I (161-180g/km) - £175 Bands J and K (181-225g/km) - £215 Band L (226-255g/km) - £405 Band M (255g/km) - £405



GREENER IS CHEAPER: All Hyundai i10 city cars (above left) qualify for the lowest road tax band (£35) and also come with a five-year warranty; and the low emissions of Skoda Fabia Greenline (above right) also attract only £35-a-year in road tax bills

To see this clip, search 'recycling'

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K Ji

Julie Maddocks discovers how recycling can be not only good for the environment – but save you money

Essential guide to where you can save

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Model shown is Fabia GreenLine 1.4 TDI PD 80hlp DPF at £10,253.04 RRP. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia GreenLine: Urban 53.3 (5.3), *Extra-urban 83.1 (3.4), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO₂ emissions for the Fabia GreenLine 109g/km. Reduction applied to the RRP including factory fitted optional extras and is the equivalent of VAT at 15%. VAT is applicable and will be shown on the customer's invoice. Excludes Channel Islands. Offer subject to availability and may be amended or withdrawn at

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We take a look at how a school in Maidstone has introduced banking to show pupils how to manage money

Essential guide to where you can save

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- Colgate Garage doors in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off some garage doors
- KOS is offering ultra-slim Danish Skagen watches for men and women only £69.99 saving £20 0n the RRP
- Maidstone Kia Motors in Maidstone is offering 10 per cent off all accessories
- Aquasphere bathrooms store in Swalecliff is offering an accessories pack worth £100 with every new bathroom

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CASH-strapped businesses could be literally pouring money down the drain - by not taking simple steps to turn off the tap of water waste.

Sustainable business expert Envirowise is calling on businesses in the South East to take on board low-cost initiatives to reduce water consumption which it says could help save thousands of pounds every year.

With reports predicting water is set to become an increasingly scarce and expensive resource, and that UK businesses are using enough of it every year to fill 2.6 million Olympic-sized swimming pools, it says local businesses could be pouring money down the

By Tony Patey

To make it easy for businesses to introduce water-saving measures, Envirowise has launched a new step-by-step online tool that helps companies identify where and how water is used and treated, the costs involved, and practical ways to reduce and re-use it.

The tool also helps organisations keep control of costs and future proof against rate rises

and supply shortages.

Last year Envirowise ran Rippleffect, a free initiative designed to help businesses tackle water use.

Around 500 businesses signed up for the scheme and it is hoped many more will benefit from water savings by using the new tool. Holly Firmin, South East regional manager, cheap and endless resource, the reality is that we are using and wasting far too much, and this is placing extra pressure on existing supplies as well as impacting on the bottom line. "It is crucial that people are aware of the

said: "While many of us consider water to be a

serious and complex issues around water supply and use and we hope our new tool will help businesses address these challenges in the most effective way."

For details about the scheme visit www.envirowise.gov.uk/water.

Envirowise is a government-funded programme which aims to put sustainable use of resources at the top of the UK business agenda.

Since it has helped UK businesses save over £1 billion by helping them reduce their environmental footprints.

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By JEREMY GATES

THERE are probably two reasons why the annual pension of around £700,000 awarded to Sir Fred Goodwin, as he sidesteps the wreckage of the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS), is arousing such fury.

The first is that much of his cash could come from taxpayers, possibly for decades, because RBS pension schemes worldwide already face a near £2 billion deficit. RBS non-contributory pensions are fully guaranteed by the firm.

The second, is that while Goodwin hits the jackpot, some seven million workers in money purchase defined contribution (DC) pensions are seeing their retirement income slashed by the credit crunch, despite years of saving.

Private

Financial advisor Hargreaves Lansdown thinks the average employee saving £150 per month would take 209 years, allowing for investment growth and inflation, to match Sir Fred's pension pot, which RBS accrued for him since 1998. Meanwhile, those in DC schemes have seen their likely pension income slashed 20-25 per cent in the past 18 months.

Over-55s, in particular, feel powerless as markets slide because a full recovery before they retire is unlikely. How long will it take to recoup £50bn worth of share values in London one day this week?

To have any hope of a decent payout, workers must stick with pension saving through thick and thin. The eventual payout might be healthier than they fear – or expect.

Even Sir Fred needed a bit of luck at the end: if RBS had gone bust, he would have got a maximum pension of £27,000 a year. Those who make no private pension arrangements miss out particularly badly, if their employer is willing to pay into a pension on their behalf. Besides the boss's contribution, pensions are helped to grow over the years by tax relief.

Protecting your pension through the tough times

The dwindling number still in the private sector final salary pensions, mostly assume they don't have a problem. In fact, their fund may face a rising deficit, so it might be prudent for them to save more through an AVC (Additional Voluntary Contribution) scheme to boost their eventual pension income.

For others outside final salary schemes, an obvious vehicle for extra saving is a SIPP (Self-Invested Personal Pension), a concept devised in the early 90s. Many self-employed workers use a SIPP as their main pension plan.

Laith Khalaf, pension analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown (HL) says a "Bed and SIPP" enables savers to switch unwanted shares into a SIPP, with generous tax relief on top.

"HL figures suggest there are as many as 10 million private shareholders, many with shares from demutualisations," Khalaf says.

Basic rate payers putting £1,000 worth of shares into the SIPP get an additional £250 in tax relief, while higher rate taxpayers get up to another £250 back from the taxman.

"Markets and asset values move in a cyclical direction and every 10-15 years, something bad happens. In good times, people happily put money away, and in bad times, they don't.

"We should invest on a counter-cyclical basis. The fact is that Government – regardless of party – will soon raise taxes, particularly income tax and National Insurance, to handle vast debts building up, so it is vital to use the tax shelter which pensions provide.

"At the very least, put spare money into a

pension pot, to hold it there as cash until you find an attractive investment. In pensions invested in managed funds, you might step up contributions to buy in at the lower price," Khalaf says.

Malcolm Cuthbert at financial advisor Killik & Co says some savers fatten up SIPPs either by putting in ISA money currently earning a low interest rate, or a lump sum generated by cashing in a poorly performing endowment.

He cites the example of a higher rate taxpayer at 50 moving £8,000 from an ISA into a SIPP who receives £2,000 tax relief immediately, and can claim back £2,000 through his tax return, so a net £6,000 outlay produces an extra £10,000 in the pension.

The average sum held in SIPPs is around £50,000, but Cuthbert says it is important to check each investment inside it to ensure good performance. Switching to a better performing fund might involve no charges.

State

Next, we come to the State pension: those with a full NI contribution record can count on £90.70 per week, and in many cases will collect more. From 2010, the minimum number of years' work required to qualify for a full basic State Pension falls to 30.

For a prediction on your state pension, check with the Department of Work and Pensions at 0845 300 0168 and at www.thepensionservice.gov.uk. Khalaf says people may be tempted to lessen the impact of this downturn

by delaying their pension by two or three years, and living on savings or part-time work in between.

When retirement actually arrives, savers in DC pensions should use the open market option (OMO) to find the most generous annuity, instead of merely accepting the quotation from their pension provider.

Steve Hunt, at Rockingham Retirement, reckons pensioners lose £1.4bn a year by failing to do this. Figures from the Association of British Insurers (ABI) indicate that 169,000 retirees turned down an annuity offered by their pension provider in 2008 and presumably found something better elsewhere, just over a third of the total annuity market.

"Research shows that those approaching retirement can increase their income by more than 20 per cent by shopping around, compared to the default option," Hunt says.

Finally, it is worth remembering that the bleaker prospects might appear in the pension sector, the more likely it is that new products will enter the field.

Next week, Prudential launches its New Income Choice Annuity, available for clients with pension pots of at least £10,000 after tax-free cash has been taken. It will enable savers to select a starting income which can be varied over time.

If Prudential's new product catches on, rivals will respond. As the older population grows, pensioners have a bit more bargaining clout than they realise.



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For poorer and poorer

BY **MELANIE DEN BRINKER**

THERE have been a spate of recent headlines about highly paid people trying to renegotiate socalled 'big money' divorce settlements they can no longer afford as the bonus culture declines.

So it's not surprising divorce lawyers are seeing a marked increase in the number of previously high-earning men seeking to reduce maintenance payments to their ex-wives.

They believe that, having shared in the good times, their ex-spouses should now share in

Although orders for the payment of ongoing maintenance are variable, orders dividing capital assets have historically not, save in rare and unforeseen circumstances, been variable, even where there is a change in financial cir-

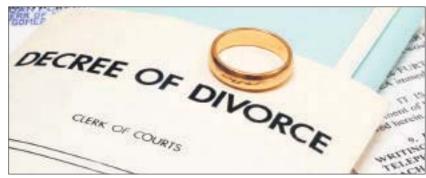
Where does this leave previously wealthy divorced couples whose capital assets were valued and subsequently divided shortly before the credit crunch hit, and who may now be looking at a reduction in the value of some of their assets by as much as 90 per cent?

In many cases this ill fortune will be shared between the parties.

However, often the wife will have received the bulk of the 'copper-bottomed' assets, including the former matrimonial home, while the husband retains a larger percentage of the risk-laden assets such as shares, options or even possible future bonuses.

In such cases, while the wife may be facing a fall in the value of her assets, it may be as nothing to that faced by the ex-husband.

How the recession could see divorce settlements head back to the court room



The result may be that he ends up with significantly less capital than the ex-wife.

For such ex-couples, the outcome of an application made to the Court of Appeal by Bryan Myerson, a city fund manager may have huge

He has asked the Court of Appeal for leave to apply to reopen a divorce settlement finalised in March last year, whereby he was ordered to pay 43 per cent of a total £25.8 million assets to his wife.

She received £9.5m cash, while he retained most of his shares. Since the settlement, the value of his shares has plummeted by 90 per

The result is Mrs Myerson will hold 105 per cent of the couple's assets, while Mr Myerson, who would have to borrow to pay the £2.5m that he still owes, will be half-a-million pounds out of pocket rather than retaining £14.6m, as had been anticipated at the time of the settlement

She opposes the application, with her lawyer predicting that, if allowed, it will open the floodgates to applications by many other men in a similar position.

Indeed, Jim Moore, the so called 'buy-to-let king' has already announced he will represent himself in an attempt to reopen his divorce settlement on the grounds the fall in property values has made it unaffordable.

Whether or not they are successful remains to be seen, but what is clear is that in these difficult times, divorce will increasingly be seen to be for poorer as well as for richer.

• Melanie den Brinker is a solicitor at leading

Kent solicitors Buss Murton, with offices in Tunbridge Wells, Cranbrook and Dartford.

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Don't let the financial climate be a taxing time for your relationship

CREDIT-crunched couples can cut down their tax burden and ease the stress caused to relationships by the economic slump.

The charity Relate has highlighted financial pressures as causing potential relationship problems – but tax should not be an extra issue.

In fact, couples who work together in planning their tax affairs can save tax and so keep much-needed cash available.

These savings mainly apply to married couples and civil partnerships, to whom special rules apply, but some can also apply to unmarried couples.

The tax savings available depend on making the best use of both partners':

- annual tax allowances;
- lower and basic rate tax bands;
- exemptions on transfers of assets between them, so enabling the best use of tax losses.

Mostly the savings will reduce current liabilities, but there will be cases where refunds of tax from previous years may be claimed.

Make full use of income tax allowances. Interest returns are low at present but if only one spouse is in paid work, putting savings in the name of the other makes use of their personal allowance.

BY PAUL HODGE

This tip will remain worthwhile even when interest rates recover if the account-holder does not resume employment.

Where one spouse is the main earner, forming a company or partnership can enable the profits to be shared between both.

Again, this makes use of both personal allowances and, if the main earner expects to have assessable income of more than £43,875 in the year 2009-10, he or she will pay higher rate tax unless some of that can be transferred to the other spouse.

This can be done by:

- employing the spouse and paying him/her a reasonable wage for the work done;
- giving the spouse shares in the company and paying dividends:
- making the spouse a partner in the business.

Bed and breakfasting', commonly by one spouse selling and the other buying shares whose value has risen, is usually done to reduce future capital gains tax by using annual exemptions.

But not all shares will be standing at a loss and many people who have sold shares before they fell to below their original cost will have made taxable gains on those shares.

If their gains are more than the annual exemption, but they have other shares that are showing a loss, bed and breakfasting the loss-making shares can create a loss that

will reduce or
eliminate
the CGT on
g a i n s
already
realised.
If one
spouse is
about

sell

asset and the other has already made capital losses, the asset can be transferred to the spouse with the losses before selling, so that those losses reduce the taxable capital gain. A similar arrangement can work if a higher rate taxpay-

er is about to cash in an insurance policy.

Chargeable event gains are liable to higher rates but if the policy is first





Put yourself ahead of the game when searching for a new job

GETTING a new job these days is tough in the extreme – recent reports say anything up to 60 people are going for jobs which wouldn't even make a tiny blip on the radar in normal economic times.

So when it comes to looking for new jobs it's essential you know a little about the companies you apply to.

That would put you in pole position, at least when it comes to interviews.

By understanding a company you will be able to know more about the kind of work they do, if it suits you, whether you're the right person for the job, what qualities they're looking for in job applicants — and crucially also how you should position yourself in your CV and cover letters.

Using relevant information during the application process will show potential employers you have researched their company, understand them and are keen to work for them specifically.

Susan Yallop, a director at recruitment firm Adecco, has set out some tips on how to find background information on potential employers, helping to make the job-seeking process a lot more targeted and potentially successful. Company websites

Company websites are a great place for you to start your research – nearly every company now has a web page, which will include information about the organisation, what they offer as a business and its aims and ethos.

RY TONY PATFY

This is the best place to start when building up your knowledge as it gives you an overall flavour of the company. Downloading company reports can offer a good insight into the direction the business is moving in; this will offer you strong background knowledge should you be offered an interview.

Get online

The internet is a great place for finding information on a company and its recent news and announcements.

While the company website may offer some information on the company, looking for its presence online with relevant newswires and national and trade publications will give you a more comprehensive impression of what it has done in the past 12 months, the direction the company appears to be moving in and how it is competing in its market.

Social networking

This is not just a way of sharing photos and chatting with friends. A number of companies use social networking for business purposes.

use social networking for business purposes. While some use the sites for a communal place for employees to chat and share information, there are a number of companies who have started to use these sites for recruitment purposes.

Sites such as Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter might be just the thing to help you to find information on companies and job openings while staying up to date with specific industries.

From the horse's mouth

While external sources are all useful they don't offer an inside perspective, only news that a company has released or been involved in

If you have a friend or an acquaintance who has either worked for or in some way been involved with a company, they can be extremely valuable.

While this information source isn't essential, personal recommendations and incite offer a huge bonus as you can learn about working culture and everyday goings on at any companies that might be of interest.

If you don't ask you don't get

If you are struggling to find out about the company don't be afraid to call the main help desk and ask for company brochures or advice as to where you can find out more

as to where you can find out more.

HR may even be able to supply you with a more detailed job description.

Competitors

It can be worthwhile researching the companies that compete in the same space as the organisation you are looking to work for.

It will impress the employer if you can demonstrate knowledge of the key players and offer an opinion on the industry as a whole.

Ms Yallop said: "Obviously, companies always try to give the best impression of

Ms Yallop said: "Obviously, companies always try to give the best impression of themselves through various formats but by investigating a number of avenues you will be able to get a much clearer and rounded impression of the image and culture that each company is trying to promote and aspire to"

Essential guide to where you can save

- Blakes Hair & Beauty in Canterbury is offering 30 per cent off all colours with full price cut and blow dry
- Maidstone Kia in Maidstone is offering a free set of mats with any new car purchased before May 31
- KOS is offering all seasons duck duvet, two duvets that button together from only £39.99. Save more than 50 per cent
- Wildlife Heritage Foundation Animal Park in Ashford is offering an amazing day being close to big cats. All day dedicated guide with buffet lunch, tea/coffee for only £99
- Pomphreys Motors in Bapchild, Sittingbourne is offering a car rental deal when you book one day you get the second free
- Robins and Day Motors in Maidstone, Canterbury and Rochester are offering MOTs from £39.99. Service and MOT from £129.99 and seasonal checks from £19.99
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BY JEREMY GATES

IF NEW figures detailing our personal borrowings are even vaguely accurate, Gordon Brown isn't alone in convincing himself the best way out of any financial squeeze is to step up the spending.

Professional advice website Unbiased.co.uk says personal loan debt rose by over £1.6 billion to £11.4bn during 2008

The website nominated March 25 as Debt Freedom Day -and reckons we worked for the first 83 days of the year to earn the money to service interest charges on our debts, despite the fact that credit card debt actually fell by just over £4.9bn during 2008.

"Perhaps it takes an occasion like Debt Freedom Day to illustrate just how deeply in debt we are, and it will hopefully spur people into action to tackle debts," says spokesman David Elms.

"It's a daunting task, but with inter-

est rates at a record low, this is the time to make money work hard to ensure any debt is repaid as quickly as possible."

Many will not escape current financial difficulties: accountants KPMG predict more than 150,000 people are likely to enter into an Individidual Voluntary Arrangement (IVA), be declared bankrupt or enter into a Debt Relief Order (a new option for people with little hope of

repaying debts) to be introduced on

April 6, 2009. "Falling house prices, the general downturn and increases in unemployment are starting to have an impact. says Mark Sands, KPMG's director

of personal insolvency.

Dur personal debt is out of control

"Whilst consumers fight to keep their jobs and homes, for those that lose both there is often little reason for someone with debts and assets not to declare themselves bankrupt

John Fairhurst at Payplan, a free debt advice and solutions service started in the early 1990s to offer insolvency solutions to public sector workers, says in many cases people fail to realise they are in trouble until it is too late.

"They often go to the wrong place for help," he says. "Typically they fix another loan to consolidate debts, and find themselves in even

deeper difficulties before long." The average Payplan client has net household income of £1,700 per month, including benefits. They are sitting on £30,000 worth of unsecured debts and after meeting all commitments, face a shortfall of about £650 per month. Around half of Payplan clients who are homeowners have paid the mortgage at some stage by credit card, and they don't tell creditors of their problems for fear of losing their credit card.

Since August, 2008, the 600-strong Payplan team in Grantham, Lincolnshire, has seen a sharp rise of owner/occupiers in trouble.

Unemployment redundancy have not yet figured largely in the cases it is handling.

DON'T RUN AWAY: Tackle debts, and now is a good time with current interest rates low

Although the group with the most problems is aged 35-45, the sector seeing the fastest rise in problems is older - in the 50-60 bracket.

The average owner-occupier in trouble has a net monthly income of £2,100 and unsecured debts of £41,000, including credit cards, personal loans, and car loans, creating a monthly deficit of about £950.

Fairhurst says they have been hit particularly hard by the clampdown on credit in 2008, and the end of easy remortgaging caused by the plunge in house prices. For many, the escape routes are cut off.

Payplan's initial strategy is to bring the household budget back into balance: creditors are requsted to stop adding interest and other charges, if clients agree to pay an affordable monthly sum to each creditor.

About a third of Payplan clients agree to a repayment arrangement, with six out of seven choosing Debt Management Plans (DMPs) and the remainder opting for Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVSs).

Debt Relief Orders is a third, simpler option to reduce the administrative work triggered by the great debt mountain. Fairhurst believes they will be offered to people with debts below £15,000, no assets and minimal income, and little hope of paying anything off.

On payment of a £90 fee, debtors will have debts written off, and will find it extremely difficult to get credit in the future.

Some debt problems are solved informally, without using any of these vehicles. Around five to six per cent of Payplan customers take advice on making contractual repayments and handle their own financial arrangements thereafter.

Essential guide to where you can save

- Lexterten furniture store in Westgate-on-Sea is offering £100 off Elevating TV cabinets
- Old Sawmills furniture store in Ashford is offering 20 per cent off all showroom items
- Oliver Carpets in Ramsgate and Herne Bay is offering 10 per cent off when you spend more than £250
- Pomphreys Motors in Bapchild, Sittingbourne, is offering a half-price MOT with every service
- Village Hotel in Maidstone is offering £5 off the carvery lunch on any Bank Holiday
- Living Out log cabin store in Chestfield, Maidstone, is offering free installation on all standard range of cabins
- Aylesford Self Storage in Aylesford is offering three months' free storage for a year for all new document storage clients
- County Garage in Herne Bay is offering free health check and free 29 point including wash and vacuum
- Bailevs Nissan Motors in Canterbury is offering 15 per cent off MOTs
- Medway Stoves solid fuel heating store in Medway is offering 15 per cent off all stoves and installations purchased before June 30, 2009
- KOS is offering a Remington Titanium Washable Shaver only £49.99 inc p&p save £50 off RRP

To get these offers go to: www.vouchersforkent.co.uk TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY TO ALL OFFERS



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FREE CARAVANS Genuine offer, just pay the site fees and connection charge and experience park life on a fantastic 4* holiday park. Fantastic offer - Tel. 01303-870536.

STATIC CARAVAN FOR SALE 6 berth on Marlie Farm, Dymchurch, Kent. On fantastic pitch near swimming pool. £10,000 ovno. Call Liz on 07870388143.

LUXURY HOLIDAY HOME FOR SALE IN KENT. 2 bedroom with double glazing, central heating and en-suite. All facilities available with restaurant/bar and leisure complex. Sited on Marlie Farm Holiday Park. £22,000. Call Liz on 07870388143.

LODGE HOLIDAY HOME FOR SALE -

Private entrance and garden on secluded plot, 2 bedrooms, modern appliances, fully furnished with entertaining deck. Sited at Coghurst Hall Park near Hasting. Great facilities, pool, bar, excellent fishing lake and lots more. Viewing strongly recommended, available now for £44,995. Tel 0.1424, 756,814.

2 BED CARAVAN FOR SALE Beautiful woodland park, absolute bargain with site fee's included, First to see will buy £6995. Call 01424 853 764.

CARAVAN FOR SALE 1995 Atlas Festival, 30x10, 2 Bedroom, Ideal Starter Caravan at a bargain price £6,995. Call 01795 580178

STARTER HOLIDAY HOME PACKAGES

1994 Cosalt Avocet 28x10 2 bed. Sited on a plot of your choice at Harts Holiday Park. £6995. Call 01795 511522.

IDEAL STARTER CARAVAN FOR SALE on the stunning Seaview Holiday Park, Whitstable. 28ft by 10ft Delta Santana 2003. Great condition. Will sleep 6 people comfortably. All the mod cons. Excellent facilities on the park that have recently been enhanced. Direct access to beach. Pets welcome. Just £13,495 with site rent paid for 2009. Call 01227 794748.

COSALT TORINO 34X10 3 bed with heating in all bedrooms and in very good condition. Fantastic starter caravan with decking all inc with site fee's £10995. Call 01797 229 079.

CARAVAN FOR SALE 6 berth on a lovely quiet plot on New Beach Holiday Park. Very tidy with all appliances and decking £12995 inc fees, must be seen. Tel. 07950-252306.

BARGAIN CARAVAN FOR SALE! 2004 Delta Santana 28'x10', 2 bedroom model. Lounge, kitchen/diner. Lovely condition complete with decking. Sited at Coghurst Hall woodland park near Hastings. Great facilities Club / Restaurant, Indoor pool and spa, big fishing lake. First to see will buy £6995. Tel 01424 756 814.

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2001 DELTA SANTANA 28x10 2 Bed. Sited On Sheerness Holiday Park, Isle Of Sheppey. Now £9,995. Call 01795

WILLERBY HERALD 28X12 2 bed sited on Harts Holiday Park. £9995 For further details and to arrange a park tour. Call 01795 511522.

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RYE, EAST SUSSEX Caravan for sale on a quiet, friendly park nr Rye. Quick sale required £6,000 o.v.n.o - site fees are also to be paid call Wayne on 07903 128 313

HOLIDAY HOMES FOR SALE New and pre-owned holidays homes for Sale at Frenchman's Beach Holiday Park, Nr Rye East Sussex. Starting from £10,995 including 2009 site fees. Call one of our friendly & helpful team on 01797 229 226 and move in within 2 weeks!



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OFFER ENDS GOOD FRIDAY

yourmedwaymusic

Credit crunch unplugs Red List Live festival

THIS global recession has to be stopped.

First it brings the world's banks to their knees, and then it goes after the housing market and sends unemployment levels rocketing.

And now the all-consuming credit crunch has hit Kent's music festivals, with Red List Live postponing this summer's inaugural event until 2010. Something needs to be done.

Red List announced the postponement on Wednesday April 1 – prompting festival fans to dismiss the news as some sort of April Fool's

BY SIMON ROBINSON

publicity stunt. But a spokesman soon said: "We are deeply saddened to announce that Red List has taken the tough decision to postpone our first festival until 2010.

"This is due to a number of factors, including the high risk of holding an event in the current economic climate, and the impact of increased capacity at established local festivals such as The Hop Farm.

"We took the decision at this early stage,

www.elephantwindows.co.uk

before final acts were booked, full promotion began, and site work undertaken in order to protect Red List Live's ability to host live events in the future.

"Red List Live still plans to hold a series of smaller events this summer, with some of the bands already booked, before returning as a festival next year as part of our five-year plan.

"All ticket holders have been fully refunded, and as a thank you for their support will be invited, free of charge to one of our upcoming events."

Fellow Kent music festival organisers said

they were shocked by Red List's postponement but said the market had become saturated in recent years.

Lounge on the Farm's Matt Gough said: "It's definitely a more competitive market than it was when we started in 2006. Outdoor events seem to be something of a fashion. But it's healthy competition. Making sure what you do is unique, interesting and fun will see you good."

Sellindge Music Festival's Ben Wells added: "The festival market has become increasingly competitive over the last few years not only in Kent, but throughout the country.

"This fact alone makes the task of selling tickets more and more difficult. Put that saturated level of public choice into the context of a global recession and there's no wonder many events are struggling."

Both festivals played down the effect Red List's cancellation will have on their ticket sales but said they were looking forward to the summer.

LOTF's Matt Gough said: "Ultimately what's happened with Red List Live is a shame as it can have a bit of a negative effect on the Kent festival scene – it certainly doesn't fill people with confidence. But I think there's an excellent offering of live music in the county this summer and I'm sure we're all in for a very enjoyable time."



elephant 0800 195 0000

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TOP TRIO: Robert Mitchell Trio treated the audience at the Quarterhouse



MAKE NO MISTAKE: The four-piece group rock out at Live @ Zebra Bar



KENT UNSIGNED CHART

1 D-FINITIVE – Space (from Tenterden)

2 The Suspects – He Said (from Margate)

3 Timothy Edwards – Escape The Season (from Maidstone)

4 Freefall - Pack Up Your Things (from Bromley)

5 Directions – Golden Light (from Maidstone)

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HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 54", size 12, dark hair with blonde high-lights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for happy relationship. Turbridge Wells. Box 308734 © PREADY FOR ME?

READY FOR ME?

Single mum from Kent, 34, 514, works part time, booking for an easy-going and genuine male with gosh for friendship, more. Box 450649 © LIVING IT

Fair-haired female, 35, 5ft, loves the

Intercount of the company of the co

that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447595
■ A NEW FUTURE!

I'm Rachel, 35, medium, enjoys pubs, clubs, cosy rights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 448591
■ ON A ROLL!

Hi, I'm Alison, 36, 5ft5, single mum, loves swimming, roller skating and meeting new people, looking for a male for friendship, maybe leading to more. Box 448665
■ WISHFULLY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5ft2, brown hair, silm build, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449915

WOMEN seeking men

TAKE ME FOR WHO I AM
Hi Im Sam, 22 looking for a relationnhip. Im blonde, brown eyes, love
cosy nights in and cinema, looking to
share a relationship, Box 447871 ©
WHAT'S THE SCORE?
Enjoys goling out and staying in, looking to
ing for a like-minded man, to be her

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...
Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a last-

seeks similar male, 58-62, for a last-ing relationship. Box 448756 **⊕ BRING ME SUNSHINE**Outgoing, fun female 28, seek outgo-ing, fun guy to make me laugh, share good times with. Box 882511 **⊕**

good times with. Box 802011 •
GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

35, 6ft+, no baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471 ①

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-

soulmate. Box 446494 0

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STACEY LOOKING

FOR HER GAVIN
Slim, blue-eyed beauty, 31, Tunbridge
Wells, loving, caring, very genuine.
Wanting someone to cuddle up with at night and have lots of laughs with. Box 881494 •

HAPPY SHOPPER!

Easygoing female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTM loving, caring white male, 35-47, for long-term, loving relationship. No time-wasters. Box 444214 ①

No time-wasiers. DOX *****PT TO THE TRANSPORT OF THE TRAN ing, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552 ①

CUDDLY FEMALE
32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh, and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402

FIT FOR FUN
Petite, dark-haired girl, 33, 5ft, fit, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047 (*)
CONSIDERATE,

CARING, CONSIDERATE,
HOPEFULLY YOURS
Lovely young lady, 33, 518, cuddly
larger buld, single mum, seeking kind,
caring, honest and genuine man for
fur/firendship..hopefully more. Box
450371 ①

AND THE SPARKS WILL FLY Bubbly lively lady, 5ft7, outgoing, 33, honest, reliable, looking for someone to get to know and see what happen Sittingbourne. Box 449585 **① ②**

HORSES FOR COURSES...
Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 ①

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

Good looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends, and hopefully someone special. Box 446039

cial. Box 446039 **W**LOOKING FOR
A LOVING CHAP
Ashford-based woman looking for an
honest, friendly, caring and loving
man. I have two kids and enjoy the
susual things in life. Box 446885 **O**ON THE LOOKOUT FOR LOVE

37yr old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a car-

Lovely female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usuall Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053 • •

SEIZE THE DAY
Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair,
green eyes, likes socialising, staying
in, seeks genuine male for friendship
and more. Box 428666

CUTE AS CAN BE

Cute, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983 **① ②**

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0906 550 4335

ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED! Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experi-ences! seeking a nice man for poten-tial exciting relationship! Box 446724

Seeking genuine, sincere, honest guy who likes to have fun. I'm a friendly, 40yr old female, like cats, wind surf-ing, railway trips, cafes. Box 449747

ring, railway trips, cafes. Box 449747

THE SIMPLE THINGS....

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap; I'm a 40yr old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542

■



YOUNG-AT-HEART Attractive 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 • •

ANIMAL LOVER?

Nurse, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male Box 431557

A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE

A NICE BUTILE OF WINE
Lovely, glossy brunette, 39yr old,
petite, bubbly and loving, enjoys theatter, music and eating out, willm a
professional, loving and tactile male
for a relationship. Box 442551 10 0
SOUND GOOD?

Medium build brunette, 40, 517, single

mum, enjoy bowling and water-sports looking for a tall, non-smoking, white male for a stable and affectionate relationship. Box 450658

Attractive woman with a great persor ality to go with, looking to meet a fit,

tall, well-built black male, 35-55, for fun times and hopefully romance. Box 450650 **①**

NO TIES
Lonely, bored, professional Tunbridge
Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTM slim, single, solvent, professional white male
40-50 for company, fun, love and
laughter. Box 443573

LIFE IS GIVING LOVE A GUARANTEE

Down-to-earth lady, 42, sincere, hon-est and reliable, looking for a male for friendship first, going out, enjoying evenings and perhaps something more later on. Box 449712 **①**

COSY TIMES TOGETHER

Fun-loving female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, tray elling and a nice evening cuddled up. Box 881545 0

Good-looking brunette from Kent, 43, 5f110, likes bowling, eating in/out etc. Looking for a good-looking guy, 35-45, with gsoh for friendship/relationship.

AIMING HIGH

Alfimited High felt blonde aerobics instructor, female, 43, seeking decent, tall, fit male for companionship, hopefully leading to a relationship in my spare time (mainly afternoons). Box 446017 • SATURDAY NIGHT

AT THE MOVIES!!

Single mum, 43, kind and devoted, likes walks, cinema, beaches and socialising, drinks and films, seeks similar man for lasting love. Box Socialistity, www.scimilar man for lasting love. Bux 449586 **①**COME ON DOWN!

Come on Down!

C

friendship leading to more. DUN 828393 © SOUND GOOD? Hi Im Lynne 46, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, love reading/writing, going out, astrol-ogy, cars; seeking honest, caring, out-going guy to enjoy music, fun, fiend-ship and more! Box 449186

ship and more! Box 449186

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Sun-loving 48yr old woman with a second home in Lanzarote, 5ff6, fairly slim, hazel eyes, looking for a man to share fun times with. Box 450310

share fun times with. Box 450310 **①**ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?

Caring, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-52 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box

HAPPY GO LUCKY

Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 ①

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 •

JUST IMAGINE

BE MY GUY Young 50s lady, slim, 5ft4, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cook-ing, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest male. Box 449288

◆

HERE AND NOW
Outgoing lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever. Box 449524 ©
ENTERTAIN ME
Female, 50, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, must be honest, genuine and loving, Box 438854 ©
CARING & PROFESSIONAL
Female 49, 514, long hair, sim build,

Female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim build, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings Box 417100



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WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...
I'm 51, fed up with playing solitaire on
the computer! Sincere and loving,
enjoy many interests, looking for
friendship, hopefully leading to more.
Box 881711 •

YOU DON'T KNOW
UNTIL YOU CALL...
Young looking, hard working 53yr old
living in East Sussex. I am a happy,
caring person with a good sense of humour. Non-smoker. Heathfield. Box 383410

MAKE IT HAPPEN

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS!

Smart petite lady, 56, 5ft4, tall, blonde hair, green eyes, likes restaurants, theatre, cinema, travel abroad; seeking happy guy with similar interests. Box 448795 •

A COMPANION FOR LIFE?

A COMPANION FOR LIFE?
Blonde lady, 56, 5ft5, medium build, attractive, devoted mum, ready to start dating again and seeking male who loves travel, theatre, walks, cinema and more. Box 448449

FRIENDSHIP, MAYBE MORE? Hi, I'm 58, 5ft7 with fair hair, medium build, love dancing and music, pubs,

clubs, socialising, looking for a similar easygoing, romantic man for love. Box 450764 **①**

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Just enter the six-digit Box number, followed by a space, then **PHOTO** and send to **82250** Your phone must be WAP-enabled

Add a photo of yourself

Register your number with us & send by MMS to 07786 203 777. Enter P2P as subject. MMS - standard network charges apply

WALKS ALONG THE COAST

WALKS ALONG THE COAST Honest & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 ①
HAPPY AS ME

Fun-to-be with, happy, contented lady (60), 5ft4, I enjoy theatre, dining out and having friends round for a meal, gardening and pets. Box 882812 ①

SOMEBODY TO
LAUGH WITH...
Loving lady looking for companion-ship, 63, 513, medium build, brown hair/eyes, loves dancing, walks and animals; seeks similar male with great SOH for lasting happiness. Box 446382 ©

great SOH for lasting nappliness. DOX 446382 © PUT SPARK INTO LIFE Caring slim female, 64, 5ft2, like meals out, cinema, walks, gardening and golf, looking for a kind and loving companion, 60-68. Box 450581 ©

A BREATH OF FRESH AIR
Smart, attractive, bubbly blonde, 72,
own house, GSOH, lives on coast,
enjoys most things, WLTM smart gentleman for friendship, maybe more...Gareth please call again...leave contacts! Box 438147

Women seeking women

LOVE TO LOVE

Easygoing female, 40, blue eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes wining, dining, socialising, holidays, walks cinema; seeking likewise female for companionship and more. Box 446953

HOPEFULLY MORE

Feminine woman, easygoing, caring, 45, long brown hair, blue eyes. I love music, eating out, reading/writing, drives, weekends away. WLTM boyish female. Box 448248 •



heart of gold. Box 45058 PERFECT FOR YOU

Black male, 25, currently a student, 5ft6, attractive, likes pubs and clubs, cinema and going out for meals, look-ing for a like-minded girl. Box 450770

ing for a like-minded girl. Box 450770

COUPLE UP

Bachelor, 28, I like music, travel, socialising, I liwe in Rye, and WLTM like minded woman, with similar interests. Box 450665 ©

KEEPING IT RES, seeking female 18-30, blonde, blue eyes, slim, to get to know towards hopeful relationship. Box 450810 ©

THE GOOD LIFE
Blonde male, 37, 5ffs, love golf, don't mind a beer, WLTM an opper-minded female for good times, maybe a relationship. Box 450544 ©

DOWN BY THE BEACH
H ITM Kevin, 37, 6ft1, medium build, loves cinema, music, walks and the sea, seeking similar girl to find love with. Box 449844 ©

AIM HIGH

Straightforward guy, 37, looking for someone between 18-20, blonde, slim with blue eyes, to find love and settle down with, have a family, Box 450782 ©

EVERYTHING I DO

EVERYTHING I DO

EVERYTHING I DO

EVERY STRAIN ST EVERYTHING I DO

EVERYTHING I DOLee, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, witm a woman for friendship and romance.
Box 889720 • •

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN

MAKE ME SMILE AGAIN
Seeking genuine lady. I'm a 38yr old
male, 5ft9, dark harirblue eyes. I work
hard and play hard, would like to
enjoy spare ime with partner. Box
449649 This strict with the strict of the stric

TLC ON OFFER
Good-looking man, 40, 5ft7, medium
build, dark hair/brown eyes, like traveiling, sport and adventures, looking
for a girl, same interests, 20-33, for
friendship/romance. Box 450613
HOP ON!
Halls hizers I'm male, 40.

HIYA I'm a cute and laid-back guy, 41, 5ft8, short hair, athletic, very tactile, loving and spontaneous, likes shopping, travelling, eating in/out, hate football! Brighton. Box 450614

Enquiring, motivated, compassionat open-minded and easygoing male, 41. Love people who show happiness, uniqueness, optimism, generosity, kindness and independence Do you fit the bill? Box 880927

Do you fit the bill? Box 88092/ VOU'RE THE
ONE THAT I WANT
Caring 41yr old male, 5ft11, short
brown hair, blue eyes, enjoy theme
parks, cinema, bowling, looking for a
lady, 18-32, for friendship, maybe a relationship. Box 450316 🕡 🕒

PUT THE SPICE BACK IN!

ON THE WINGS OF LOVE

ALL NIGHT LONG ALL NIGHT LONG
I'm 44, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft6,
loves the cinema and beach walks,
music, nights in and out, cooking;
seeking female 35-52 for promising
relationship. Box 449992
●

TO LOVE SOMEONE

Cheeky, happy, fit, intelligent 44yr old guy seeks an attractive, intelligent, fun-loving girl to take out and chat with and love forever. Box 450744 **P**ROMANCE IN THE AIR

ROYAGES AND THE AIR

RO

Very caring, loyal male, genuine and romantic, with GSOH, seeking lady

LTR. I'm 44, slim build, with blue eyes/fair hair. Hastings. Box 446120

HURT IN THE PAST
Hastings area. I'm a 46yr old guy,
seeking genuine, honest woman who
is looking for a relationship. I have 2
daughters who I see regularly. Box
450091 0

450091 **⊕**INTERESTED?
Hard-working male, 46, smart, single, loyal, kind and caring, likes rights in and out, looking for romance or friend-ship first... Box 449756 **⊕**SOMEONE TO SHARE WITH
Experiescent is been the base

Fancy a walk along the beach at sunset? A cosy night on the sofa? I'm male, 46, average build. I'm romantic, and like animals, and holidays. Box 447858 •

A17838 © TAKING LIFE BY THE HORNS Spontaneous guy, 46, 61, blonde, blue eyes, likes country pubs, cinemas, walks, the gym, horse-racing, theatre and more, looking for similar happy-go-lucky girl. Box 450728 © NEW BEGINNING
Sincere genuine man, 47, 5ft9, cropped hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, divorced, looking to meet a nice woman to get to know and take

nice woman to get to know and take out. Eastbourne. Box 449554 ① ②

DISCOVER ME
Self employed, divorced male, 48,
6ft3, blue eyes, own house/car, loves
animals, cooking, country walks, looking for a lady to settle down with. Box

Single dad, with a 12yr old son. I'm 49, and enjoy sport, eating out, cinema, music. Looking for a family orientated woman, aged 36-46. Eastbourne. Box 449990 HONEST

HONEST, CONSIDERATE, FRIENDLY Loving caring honest male, 50, 5ft6, stocky, short dark hair, loves animals,

football, walks, pubs, meals, cosy

nights in; seeking friendly cuddly female for LTR. Box 450697 ①

CHILD LOVER ESSENTIAL

DISCOVER ME

48589

with similar interests hopefully for

Genuine, upbeat, comical male, 42, handsome, charming, likes sports, MEN seeking women keeping trim, making new discoveries seeks beautiful lady of inside and out for love. Pevensey. Box 450622 ①

FOREVER AND EVER Roland, 22, looking for a woman, 18-25, for fun, friendship and hopefully love. I'm fun to be with and have a heart of gold. Box 450586

TIME'S ON OUR SIDE!
Adventurer, 38, medium build, 5fl8, love my motorbikes and cars, gigs and especially road trips! Looking for lemale 30-40 who is outgoing, for fun and friendship. Box 450335 **\text{ Q}\$

MAN OF FEW WORDS, BUT MUCH LOVE
H; 40yr old fur-loving male, looking to meet slim fun-loving female, looks unimportant, for hopeful LTR. Many hobbies and interests! Box 450819

HOP ON!
Hello there, I'm male, 40, medium/large build. I enjoy most things in life, going out, nights in, WLTM nice woman to share interests with. Box 45078 ©

Brighton. Box 450614 TINTELLIGENT AND FUNNY

Family orientated guy, 41, separated, looking to find a lady who wants the fun and company of a partner back into their life. Box 884085 ① ② Intelligent good-humoured man, 53 5ft10, nice looking, loves history, countryside/nature, animals, theatre music, meals and most things, seeks

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ROCK & ROLL
Rochester male, 52, 5ft11, dark hair, head chef for the British army, likes driving, coast, have 2 dogs, birds of prey, seeking a bright lady. Box 427936
SOULMATES?
Barmenate professional 56 tall slim

NOW AND FOREVER
Loyal, honest guy, 59, easygoing, tactile, affectionate, enjoys candlelit dinners, romantic walks by sea and
music, seeks attractive lady for lasting
relationship. Ashford. Box 449553

PICTURE THIS

Cuddly male, 58, 57", green eyes,
glasses, medium build, enjoys most
things in life. seeks similar female, for
friendship, maybe more. Box 396108

■

inings in life. seeds similar lentales, in life and ship, maybe more. Box 396108

White male, 62, 5ft10, grey hair, likes the countryside, travel, watching sport, gardening; seeking non-smoking lady of similar age to share life with. Dover area. Box 446326

BE MINE?
Property developer, 62, travelled Europe and beyond, eclectic interests, romantic, sensitive, seeks attractive and intelligent female friend, confidante, travelling companion, soulmate. Box 892490 soulmate. Box 892490 **@ 62 AND HAPP' 62yr** old young looking, active man, 5'6", looking for a sociable lady with a lively personality for companionship and maybe LTR. Box 438982 **@**

seeking men

TAKE A CHANCE ON ME Hi, I'm Mark, 38, looking for a nice and caring older man for a committed relationship. Any takers? Box 450596

FUN-LOVING FUN-LOVING
New-to-town male, 41, 5ft10, looking for a gay or bi male, 30-55, for friend-ship, romance, hopefully a LTR. Box

450637 **⊕**WHO KNOWS?
Very fit slim male, 69 but in very good condition! Looking for a young chap to chat to and see where we go from there. Box 450610 **⊕**

mere. Box 450610 DO YOU FEEL THE SAME?

Well-educated and fit male, 69, likes mountain walking, travelling and outdoor life, looking for a young chap to share fun times and more with. Box 450611 DO

TEXT REPLY: For your protection, you will not be allowed to swap contact details until you have exchanged five messages each. QUIDELINES, additionally a large protection where the state of the state

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

THE BOAT THAT ROCKED (15)



Comedy from Richard Curtis about a misfit group of 1960s pirate radio DJs playing pop music to the UK's youth from a boat in the North Sea. Meanwhile, a government official wants to throw them off the air.

DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION (PG)



Live action version of the manga series, Dragonball Evolution tells the story of Goku who sets out to find Master Roshi and gather the Dragon Balls before they fall into the hands of evil Lord Piccolo.

FAST AND FURIOUS (TBC)



Vin Diesel and Paul Walker return with the latest Fast and Furious thriller. Fugitive ex-con Dom Toretto (Diesel) is forced to hook up with his old adversary, agent Brian O'Conner, to confront a shared enemy.

How petite Reese rose to meet a monster challenge

BY LAURA HARDING

IT would be too easy to dismiss Reese Witherspoon as another Hollywood blonde. While the Southern belle's impish looks could have guaranteed her a success in romantic comedies, Reese has chosen a more unconventional path.

From Pleasantville, about a pair of 1990s teenage siblings who are magically transported into 1950s, to her performance as June Carter Cash in the critically acclaimed Walk The Line, Reese has been drawn to unconventional roles.

Her latest challenge, voicing the part of Susan/Ginormica, a girl-turned-monster in new 3D animation Monsters vs Aliens, reflects her tendency not to fit in.

Susan is an ordinary girl planning her wedding when she is hit by a meteorite and turned into a giant. She is then dragged off to a secret government compound and has to fight evil aliens that are trying to take over the world.

Along the way Susan has to come to terms with who she is and accept and embrace the fact that she is different. As if that wasn't enough, Susan is locked in the compound with other monsters that the government doesn't know what to do with. At first she is repulsed but as the film goes on she learns to love them.

"Through the journey of the film, Susan starts to value and appreciate the monster crew for the support that they give her - the love, the companionship, the understanding that they have of the situation," Reese says.

"She has come to terms with the fact that she can't really go home again in the same way. She'll never be just Susan Murphy from



ACTING GIANT: Hollywood's 5ft 1in Reese Witherspoon

"At first that kind of depresses her, but then, through the help of the Monsters, she realises it's a little awesome to be different. They all value each other for their qualities, and they kind of form this offbeat family."

The film's powerful message about being an outsider was partly what drew Reese to the role. "I think it's great that this movie has a mes-

sage that no matter how weird you feel you definitely have a place in this world and sometimes that can be your greatest benefit," she says.

However much she loved the script, being a giant superhero was tough for 5ft 1in Reese, who had to channel all her efforts into sound-

ing like she could take on an evil alien.
"They kept on saying, Be more like Arnold

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Schwarznegger or Sylvester Stallone, say it in that tagline way – "I am Ginormica!" and I couldn't do it, I sounded like a robot."

Reese also reveals that her two children – Ava, nine, and Deacon, five (both from her marriage to Cruel Intentions co-star Ryan Phillippe, whom she divorced in 2006) - are huge fans of the film and both had insightful interpretations of its deeper meaning.

"I was driving them home from the theatre and I said to my kids, 'So what do you guys think is the message of the movie?' And my daughter very thoughtfully said, I think it's a movie about never letting someone underestimate you and always living up to your true potential'. I said 'You're so astute Ava, yes that's exactly what it's about'.



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PROPERTY NEWS

You say high council tax gives poor value

NEARLY 90 per cent of UK residents are unhappy with the services they receive in exchange for council tax, a new survey has revealed.

The poll of 4,800 homeowners and private tenants shows a third of people describing their local council as out of touch.

Eighty-six per cent of people oppose a revaluation of council tax bands.

Only seven per cent of respondents to the survey, by propertyfinder.com, expressed satisfaction with their local council and said they did not mind paying the tax.

ing the tax.

"The average council tax has risen 74 per cent over the past ten years, while inflation has risen just under 20 per cent, but for many, services haven't improved," said Charles Wasdell, head of research at propertyfinder.com.

"Despite massive rises in council tax, people overwhelmingly feel they get poorer value for money from local council."

Rental market value is back on the move

THE rental market has begun to show signs of recovery over the past three months, according to the findaproperty rental index.

The research shows the trend of falling asking prices and rising stock has slowed in the last quarter, with rental prices falling just -0.4 per cent in March, the lowest fall for six months.

Supply also slowed, with stock rising 1.9 per cent, the lowest monthly increase since September 2008, and well below the 12 per cent high seen in other months.

Average rents for March were £827 pcm, compared with £830 pcm in February, with tenant activity reducing the average time a property is on the market by five days over the month.

Andrew Smith, head of research, said: "The UK rental market over the past year has been a story of rising supply levels outstripping tenant demand, which in turn has led to falling rental asking prices. "There now seems to be some evidence

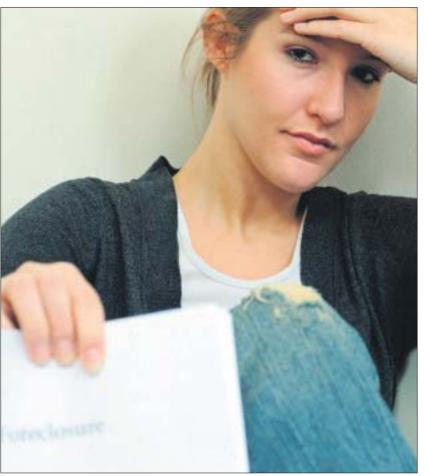
There now seems to be some evidence that this downward spiral is slowing and as such we may be reaching the bottom of the market.

"Economic instability and low consumer confidence mean it is impossible to predict what will happen to the rental market over the coming months; however, we believe that there are signs that we may start to see supply levels tighten and rents begin to rise towards the end of 2009."



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Why mortgage arrears make tenants homeless



INNOCENT: Tenants currently have no rights and are evicted when landlords default on mortgage payments

House prices show slight increase

HOUSE prices rose for the first time since the autumn of 2007 last month. But experts are now warning there may be further falls and the crisis in the economy is not at an end.

According to the Nationwide, the price of a typical house rose by 0.9 per cent in March.

This brings the price of the average house to £150,946, the first rise since October 2007.

Fionnuala Earley, Nationwide's chief economist, said: "It would be unwise to

draw strong conclusions from the slowdown in the annual rate of fall."

David Smith, senior partner at Dreweatt Neate estate agents, said: "Nobody is going to pop the Champagne corks quite yet."

Mortgage approvals were up in February, after months of decline, while buyer interest in the market has also been rising.

"People are genuinely looking again, sensing now could be the opportunity of a lifetime," Mr Neate added.

BY NICK AMES

FOUR housing charities have launched a campaign to stop tenants being kicked on to the streets because their landlord has defaulted on mortgage payments.

Shelter, Citizens Advice, Crisis and the Chartered Institute of Housing, have teamed up to help the growing number of private tenants facing eviction through no fault of their own.

The organisations are calling for a change in the law to allow courts the power to defer repossessions to allow tenants to find other suitable accommodation.

Currently most private tenants have no legal rights, which means they can lose their home without notice.

The housing charities say they have heard of cases where tenants' belongings have been put out on the street and the locks have been changed.

Shelter chief executive Adam Sampson said: "Shelter has seen a steep rise in the number of tenants who have kept their side of the bargain by paying their rent, but who are being thrown out on to the street because their landlords have defaulted on the mortgage and the house has been repossessed.

"With more and more landlords struggling with mortgage arrears and tenants facing repossession, the Government must allow the courts to defer possession dates so that tenants can find other suitable accommodation."

Members of the joint campaign are calling for the law to be changed to give courts the discretion to take into account the circumstances of sitting tenants where an outright possession order is granted, and defer possession for a limited period of time.

The charities have written to MPs urging them to sign an Early Day Motion, calling for changes to the law.

They estimate thousands of tenants in the private rented sector could be at risk of losing their homes in this way and are warning urgent Government action is needed to avoid a potential crisis.

Sarah Webb, chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Housing, said: "Much of the Government's focus so far during this recession has been on supporting homeowners through a number of means.

"Whilst we welcome these initiatives, we are concerned that tenants in the private rented sector are being left to the mercy of market forces.

"With the worst of the recession yet to come it is important that the three million households living in the sector are afforded basic legal protection when their landlords become the latest victims of the repossession crisis."

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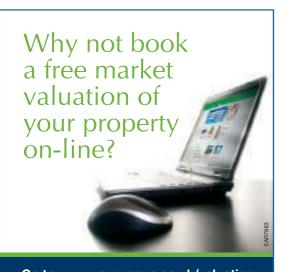
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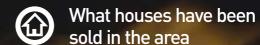


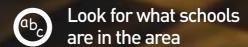
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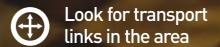
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MOTORS NEWS



Kit cars look attractive proposition in recession

MANUFACTURERS of kit cars could prosper from the credit crunch, says the organiser of Easter's Kit Car Show at the Kent Showground. Detling this weekend.

Kent Showground, Detling this weekend.
John Cooke said: "Many people budgeting up to £20,000 for a weekend fun car before the recession could now shop for a good quality two-seat roadster kit car that will set them back just £8,000."

Local kit firms include Cobra lookalike (as pictured) builder, Hawk Cars (Frant), AEON (Marden), Blaze (Otham), Cranbrook Kitcars and GKD (Maidstone).



Start-stop is real boost to Fiat star's eco cred

FIAT has a new 'Start&Stop' system for the 1.2-litre junior petrol engine on its 500 cult car.

It automatically turns the engine off when the vehicle stops and the driver selects neutral, restarting when the clutch pedal is depressed for gear selection and driving away. Fiat says Start&Stop can boost economy in town from 44.1mpg to 49.6mpg and cut emissions.

This (£9,500) 500 version also comes with MP3 compatibility, air-con, 15-inch alloys and remote audio controls.



A 'redundancy-proof' deal tabled by Volvo

VOLVO reckons fear of redundancy is a major barrier to car buying now so it has added free unemployment, life, accident and sickness protection to financial deals on its C30 hatchback coupé and S40 saloon (pictured) and V50 estate, including low emission DRIVe versions.

The free Payment Protection Insurance (PPI) covers all monthly payments due on the finance agreement for up to 12 months if needed. The deal runs until June 30 this year through participating dealerships and relevant Volvo Car Finance.



LITTLE BUT LARGE: Despite compact dimensions the Mercedes A-Class feels huge inside with excellent head and legroom with a boot that can be adjusted between two heights

Spacious Merc A-Class outgrows its pigeonhole

DOWNSIZING could open up new sales for the Mercedes-Benz A-Class after a midlife makeover.

Part of the problem before was the current A-Class – launched in 2005 – being pigeon-holed with junior models from BMW 1-Series and Audi A3, while unable to match the driving appeal and cachet of these sporting hatchbacks.

On the other hand, it can look expensive (from £14,000) against mainstream small MPVs, yet the Merc is really in a 'class' of its own — a clever three or five-door holdall for buyers aiming to downsize, but keep a posh badge.

aiming to downsize, but keep a posh badge.

In a driving context it also delivers more than most small MPV rivals without a significant ride penalty.

The steering can lack feedback, but the A-Class is a paragon of safety and security when pushed and the latest facelift has enhanced the front end with new headlamps and bumper, plus extra brightwork for the upmarket Elegance and Avantgarde trims.

Despite compact dimensions, the A-Class feels huge inside with superb head and legroom in the back, without robbing the car of boot space. The boot can also be adjusted quick-

ROAD TEST MERCEDES A-CLASS

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Green rating	****

ly between two heights to deliver a fully flat 'van' floor with extra compartment beneath when the rear seats are folded, or a deeper boot with the floor in the lower position.

The cabin feels staid, but well made, with good storage and a well-arranged dash.

Standard equipment on our smart sports trim 1.7-litre petrol Avantgarde is generous, but it has a typically hefty £17,626 price tag and specc'ing up with the desirable Luxury Package – leather seats, auto climate control, heated front seats and electrically adjustable front seats – take it to more than £19,000.

But Mercedes is generous elsewhere; our car was a new BlueEfficiency eco-friendly model that sells for around the same as a standard model – unlike the premiums charged for eco versions produced by other manufacturers.

And you start saving immediately with up to eight per cent better economy, lower emissions and lower road tax in most cases — plus a lighter conscience.

Ours is capable of an average mpg in the mid-40s and there is no discernable price to pay in terms of driving enjoyment, performance or comfort – the best way to deliver the green message.





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2004	ROVER	75	2.0 SE CDT EST	5 DOOR	WHITE	46,494 MILES	£6,995.00
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2006	FORD	FUSION	1.6 ZETEC AUTO	5 DOOR	BLUE	2,431 MILES	£6,950.00
2006	MG	ZR	1.4	5 DOOR	BLUE	39,737 MILES	£5,995.00
2004	MG	TF	1.8	2 DOOR	GREY	27,000 MILES	£5,995.00
2006	MG	ZR	1.4	3 DOOR	SILVER	30,298MILES	£5,750.00
2005	MG	ZR 160	1.8	5 DOOR	GREY	50,912 MILES	£5,750.00
2006	FORD	FIESTA	1.2 STYLE	3 DOOR	SILVER	15,801 MILES	£5,650.00
2004	MG	ZR	2.0 TD	5 DOOR	BLACK	50,912 MILES	£4,995.00
2004	MG	ZR	1.4	5 DOOR	BLACK	34525 MILES	£4,995.00
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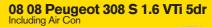
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

BRITAIN'S FAVOURITE SUPERMINIS

carsf@rkent.co.uk

AS more people downsize their car and their fuel and road tax bills, chances are that one or all of the following popular used superminis will be on their shopping list. Year in, year out they are the UK's most consistent best-sellers – a growing trend in the current economic climate. The trio are also excellent all-rounders, but a word of warning: as second-hand car prices harden, make sure you don't pay more than it would cost to keep your old car longer or trade up to a new car.

FORD FIESTA



FORD'S hugely successful supermini has marched on with a new model launched in late 2008, but don't expect weaker used prices; the credit crunch, rising fuel prices and draconian road taxes have made the Fiesta a top target for its reliability, decent driving experience, engines to suit all pockets and three and five-door body styles. Ford has also regularly produced special and limited editions laden with extra goodies, offering plenty more choice and there is even a hot ST model.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

RENAULT CLIO



DOWNSIZING can be sensible and chic with the Clio and the most recent generations have married durability and driving fun with Gallic charm. Again, the option or three or five doors is a big selling point, but our French contender also has the bonus of excellent diesel versions, though the cost of the actual fuel versus petrol argues against it currently. The Clio design has tended to be highly practical as well as charming, with good space for rear passengers.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

VAUXHALL CORSA



VAUXHALL'S Corsa was created to attack the Fiesta, yet has never quite achieved the volumes of its rival. Nevertheless, it offers similar virtues, plus a greater range of engines including a punchy and frugal three-cylinder petrol engine now in greater demand due to these straitened times. Several generations of Corsa followed a 'teardrop' body style, but the latest car is bigger and more aggressively sculpted – almost a 'supersize supermini' – with a sporty VXR version too.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	****
Looks and image	****
Space	****
Value	****
Running costs	****
Reliability	****
Quality	****

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MERCEDES BENZ E 220 CDI AVANT-GARDE 2003/53, 73000 Miles Silver (Black Leather), 4 dr Saloon Diesel Automatic, Air Conditioning, C/Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, Remote Central Locking, Cru. Control. E/Windows, E/Mirrors, E/Seats, One Owner, FSH, Ala Immobiliser, , New MOT & Pre-delivery Inspection, 4 New 18" AMG

2007/57, Grey Metalic (Charcoal Trim) 5 door Hatchback AC, PAS, ABS. Alloy Wheels. 21000 Miles.

CHRYSLER GRAND VOYAGER 2.8 CRD LX £9,995 2006/56, Blue Metalic (Grey Leather) 5 door MPV Automatic, Climate Control, 46000 Miles.

FORD STREETKA 1.61 ICE ROADSTER 2006/06, Metallic ice (Black Leather) 3 door Convertible, Alloy wheels, Sports seats, Insurance Group:7, 28000 Miles.

FORD MONDEO 2.0TDCI 115 ZETEC 2005/55, Metalic Black (Charcoal) 5 door Hatchback ,Climate Control. Insurance Group:9, 39000 Miles.

FORD MONDEO 2.0TDCI 115 I X. £6.295 2006/06, Machine Silver (Charcoal) 5 door Hatchback ,Cruise control, Group:9. , 38000 Miles.

FORD MONDEO 2.0TDCI 115 LX 2006/06, Metalic Tonic Blue (Charcoal) 5 door Hatchback, AC, Insurance Group:9., 39600 Miles.

FORD MONDEO LX 2.01 AUTOMATIC 2005/55, Silver (Charcoal) 5 door Hatchback, Climate Control, RCL, 18000 Miles.

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FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC CLIMATE

2007/56, 32000 Miles Metalic Silver (Grey/Black), 5 dr Hatch, Air Con, PAS, Traction contro/ESP, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, R/C Locking, E/W, E/M, Tinted windows, Front fog lamps, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser.

FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 2.0TDCI 2004/04, 62000 Miles Met Blue, 5 door MPV Diesel, Ac, PAS, ABS, Air Bag, Passenger Air Bag, Alloys, Rcl, E/Mins, E/Mirrors.

FORD FOCUS 1.8I TITANIUM

28995
2007/07, 11000 Miles Blue Metalic (Charcoal Half Leather Trim), 5
dr Hatch, C'Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, Traction control/ESP,
ASS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, E/Mindows, E/Mirrors, Computer, AutoWipers/head lights, /dipping rear view mirror, rear parking sensors,
E/folding door mirrors. FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 2.0TDCI

2004/04, 62000 Miles Metalic Blue (Charcoal Trim), 5 dr MPV Diesel, Air Con, PAS, Traction control/ESP, ABS, Air Bags, 6-speed gearbox, Alloy Wheels, R/Central Locking, E/Windows, E/Mirrors, New MOT & Pre-delivery Inspection, Fine example.

FORD FOCUS 1.8TDCI ZETEC CLIMATE 115PS 2007/07, 30000 Miles Black Metalic (Charcoal Sports Trim), 5 dr Hatch Diesel, Air Con, PAS, Traction control/ESP, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, R/Central Locking, E-Windows, E-Mirrors, Computer, Excellent performance with economy.

2007/07, 39000 Miles Tonic Blue (Charcoal Trim), 5 dr Hatch Diesel, Air Con, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, R/Central Locking, E/Mirrors, Computer. FORD FIESTA GHIA 1.4 TDCI £8,295

2008/08, 20000 Miles Black (Grey Leather), 5 dr Hatch Diesel, Air Con, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, R/Central Locking, E/W, E/M, One Owner.

FORD FIESTA STYLE 1.4TDCI

2006/56, 26000 Miles Purple Metallic (Charcoal Trim), 5 dr Hatch Diesel, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, R/C Locking, E/Windows, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, Balance of the Man/Fac, Warranty, £35 road fund license.

FORD FIESTA ZETEC BLUE EDITION 2007/57, Ocean Blue (Black/Blue) 5 door Hatchback, AC, RCL, Electric Windows, Bluetooth, 7000 Miles.

FORD FIESTA STYLE 1.4TDCI £5,995 2006/56, Purple Metalic (Charcoal Trim) 5 door Hatchback, RCL, 26000 Miles. MINI COOPER CONVERTIBLE. PEPPER-PACK.

2006/56, White (Charcoal Sports Trim) 2 door Convertible, Silver roll-bars, parking sensors, 23000 Miles. MITSUBISHI COLT 1.1 CZI £5295

2007/07, 12000 Miles Silver (Charcoal), 3 dr Hatch, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Remote Central Locking, EWindows, One Owner, FSH, Immobiliser, Balance of the Man/Fac, Warranty.

NISSAN MICRA SR 1.6I SPORT £5.795 2006/56, Silver (Black Leather) 5 door Hatchback Climate Control Alloy Wheels, RCL, 12000 Miles.

PEUGEOT 407 SW 2.0HDI SE 136PS 2005/55, Red Metalic (Charcoal Trim) 5 door Estate, Climate Control, Alloy Wheels, RCL, 54000 Miles.

2003/03, Blue Metalic (Blue) 5 door Estate AC, New MOT & Predelivery Inspection, 7-seat option, 42000 Miles.

PEUGEOT 207 1.6HDI SPORT, 90PS 2007/56, 40000 Miles Black Metalic (Black), 3 dr Hatch Diesel, Air Con, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, R/Central Locking, EWIndows, EMirrors, Computer, Alarm, Immobiliser, Balance of the Man/Fac, Warranty, £35 road fund lic, low insurance group.

PEUGEOT 206 GTI 2.0 16V 55995

2005/55, 28000 Miles Silver (Charcoal Leather), 3 dr Hatch, C/Control, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, R/Central Locking, E/Mindows, E/Mirrors, Service History, Alarm, Immobiliser, Sports Pack.

PEUGEOT 206 GTI DIESEL 1.6 HDI 110PS

£5,495

2004/54, 47000 Miles Blue Metalic (Charcoal Sports Trim), 3 dr Hatch, Diesel, C/Cl, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, , Alloy Wheels,E/ Windows & Mirros, Service History, Alarm, Immobiliser, Sports Pack, New MOT & Pre-delivery Inspection.

PEUGEOT 206 SW 2.01 GTI 2003/53, Grey Metalic (Charcoal Sports Trim) 5 door Estate Climate Control, Alloy Wheels, RCL, 35000 Miles.

RENAULT ESPACE 1.9DCI DYNAMIQUE 2005/54, Blue Metalic (Grey) 5 door MPV AC, New MOT & Predelivery Inspection, remote Hi-Fi, 49000 Miles.

TOYOTA COROLLA T2 1.4VVTI 2007/56, Blue (Contrasting) 3 door Hatchback AC, Air Bag, RCL, CD Player, Stereo, 12000 Miles.

VAUXHALL VECTRA SRI 1.8 V V TI 140PS 2007/07, Silver Lightening (Grey/Black) 5 door Hatchback AC, Computer, Insurance Group:10., 22000 Miles.

VAUXHALL VECTRA SRI 1.8 V V TI 140PS 2007/07, Black (Grey/Black) 5 door Hatchback ABS, Computer, Insurance Group:10., 23000 Miles.

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2006/55, 32000 Miles Silver (Black Leather), 3 dr Sports, C/C, Leather Upholstery, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, 6-speed gearbox, Alloy Wheels, Electric Windows & Mirrors, Refrigerated glove box, Auto-wipers, Parking lights, Auto-head lights, Auto dipping rear view mirror, Front fog lamps, Electric folding door mirrors, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliers, Poorts Pack, New MOT & Pre-delivery Inspection, VXR body styling, Full recaro leather trim, 240ps. VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 1.8I AUTOMATIC

2008/57, Black Metalic (Charcoal Leather) 5 door Hatchback, Immobiliser, 27000 Miles.

VALIXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXL16V SPORTS COLIFE 2007/07, 12000 Miles Metalic Black (Charcoal Sports Trim), 3 dr Coupe, A/Con, PAS, ABS, Air Bags, Alloy Wheels, Electric Windows & Mirrors, Front fog lamps, One Owner, FSH, Alarm, Immobiliser, MP3 input, Sports Pack.

VW PASSAT SE 2.0 TDI 140PS NEW MODEL 2005/55, Reflex Silver (Charcoal Trim) 4 door Saloon 12 months new MOT, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, Child locks, Insurance Group:9, 43000 Miles.

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FORD TRANSIT CONNECT T220L TDCI LWB £4995 + VAT 2006/06, 57000 Miles White (Grey), Van Diesel, ABS, Air Bag, Full Bulkhead, Immobiliser, One Owner, PAS, Passenger Air Bag, Pul Lined, Remote Central Locking/Alarm, Service History, Stereo, CD player, Solid rear doors, IvS, loading door, Fine example, Finance/loans available, credit and debit cards accepted.

FORD TRANSIT CONNECT T200 75PS 1.8TDCI £5.495+VAT 2007/07, White (Grey), Diesel, ABS, Air Bag, c/l, FSH, Immobiliser, 1 Owner, PAS, Passenger Air Bag, CD player.

VAUXHALL COMBO 2000 1.7CDTI 16V CREW SEATS £4,995+VAT 2005/55, 49000 Miles Silver, Van Diesel, ABS, Air Bag, A/c, Alarm, FSH, Immob, Air Bags, RCL/Alarm, CD player, Roof rack.

VOLKSWAGEN CADDY C20 TDI 104PS

2005/05, 28000 Miles Cotrim. Crew Silver (Grey), Diesel, ABS, Air Bags, Air Con, Alarm, E/W, FSH, Immobiliser, PAS, R/C Locking, F/Fog lights, Dual passenger seat, Co-Trim Duoliner special edition, Twin side doors, single rear tailgate Alloys, Full carpet trim, blue tooth. ASR-traction control.

FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI VAN

2006/06, 32000 Miles Silver (Grey), Van Diesel, ABS, Alarm, Electric Windows, FSH, Immobiliser, One Owner, PAS, Passenger Air Bag, Remote Central Locking/Alarm, Stereo, Metalic paint, Half-bulk head,Load liner,New model,Superb condition.Vat exempt.

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C2. 1.4 HDi SX 3dr. lv06wwm. adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air con, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors electric wins, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd. power assisted steering rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, 806 milles was, blue, 40000 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795

FORD

FIESTA 1.4TDCI, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage. 2 seater, white, 8 miles, £7999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA 1400 TDCI **NEW**, Iv09smc, panel van, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, blue, 40 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA SPORT VAN, ly57aju, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp-leasing, tax, warranty, alloy wheels. 2 seater, red, 4200 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 TITANIUM 5dr, ey08hnw metallic avalon. abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric windows, side airbags, radio/cd, blue, 9970 miles, £10995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 1.6 Sport 5dr Auto, mf06omk, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, roof rails, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group;6, red, 20068 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.4 2 5dr semi-auto, gl04whe, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser cassenger airbag, power immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:5, silver, 43114 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FUSION, 1.6 Zetec 5dr Auto [Climate], fv06yds, metallic amethyst. abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, immobiliser, passenger immuls, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, mauve, 17085 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

GALAXY. 2.0 TDCi Zetec 5dr Auto DVD NAV, ek57dhf, metallic moondust abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels immobiliser, park distance control passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, roof rails side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests traction control. insurance group:11, silver, 11509 miles, £16995, end. 01474 537111 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 2.0 TDCi Ghia 5dr. li08fpu help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year, park assist, parking sensors, privacy glass, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, insurance group:11, black 11481 miles, £15200, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

- 10397 MILES+LEATHER**, Iv06yII, adjustable seats, air conditioning alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, seats, leather seats, immobiliser power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, full leather trim. insurance group:66, blue, 10397 miles, £5490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)
- KA, 1.3i Zetec [70] 3dr [Climate], lv08jwe, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests. insurance group:4, blue, 4701 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111
- KA, 1.3i Collection [70] 3dr, gk56ukt, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, power assisted steering radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, grey, 28230 miles, £5795, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)
- seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, please contact les bellchambers. insurance group:2, red, 20618 miles, £4695, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)
- KA, 1.3i Collection [70] 3dr, gy55lya, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, blue, 21948 miles, £5495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [6], gl57wsj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, passenger airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows foolights, front armrest, side airbags spoiler, please contact les bellchambers. insurance group:77, blue, 21979 miles, £12995 end, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, LX, s 1998, 1 years mot, months tax. cd/radio.a clean liable motor. high motorway miles. micra/ met. silver/blue £999, martyn bax, kent, 07732395383 (PRIVATE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Double Cab TD AWD, gl57pwo, double cab, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, pcp, black, 150 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps. max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg. alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warrantied mileage. 5 seater, blue, 8 miles, £13895, Gravesend, 01474 537111

RANGER WILDTRAK, 09reg, 156 ps, double cab, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, alloy wheels, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 5 seater, silver, 9 miles, £13895, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

JAZZ, 1.4i-DSi SE Sport 5dr CVT-7, gk53mup, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, head restraints, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:3, green, 51500 miles, £5995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

GETZ, 1.1 GSI 3dr, gf05cwu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, immobiliser, passenger airbag, addic/de_passenger airbag, addic/de_passenger. radio/cd, power assisted steering. insurance group:3, red, 40000 miles, £3995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CEED. 1.6 LS 5dr Auto. al07ixu. petrol, gold, 16000 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802

PICANTO, 1.1 LS 5dr, gj57cdu, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, central locking, driver airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group; 3, red, 19232 miles, £4995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802

MERCEDES-BENZ

A140, Classic ONLY 27K MILES, 2004, comet grey, metallic, 27147 miles, £5000, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 50 miles, £11000, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £12500, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 5 D00R Classic SE, 2009, polar silver metallic, 3500 miles, £15900, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008 cosmos black metallic, 3500 miles, £9900, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 6000 miles, £11495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A150, 3 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 5000 miles, £11495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A160 CDI, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, cosmos black metallic, 2100 miles, £17000, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A160 CDI, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2009, mistral blue, 2000 miles, £16450, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A160 CDI, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, polar silver metallic, 3000 miles, £12995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A160 CDI, 5 DOOR Avantgarde SE, 2008, mountain grey metallic, 5000 miles, £15000, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

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76 STAFFORD ST, GILLINGHAM, KENT Day Time: 01634 856956 After Hours: 07788 956335 03 03 KIA SEDONA 2.9 CRDI LS, 5 Dr manual, 5spd, MPV, 02 52 FORD MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC, 5dr, manual, hatchback,

mirrors, electric windows, pas remote locking, radio/cd FSH£4995 P/X WELCOME

04 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 16V DESIGN, 5dr. automatic. petrol, 63,814 miles, turquoise, 1 owner, MOT until August£4495 P/X WELCOME

98 S LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 2.5 TD5 S, 5dr Manual, Station wagon, diesel, 146,000 miles, green, 3 owners, 12

petrol, 82,000 miles, metallic silver, 2 owners, 12 months hatchback, petrol, 72,000 miles, blue, adjustable seats, head Mot£2495 P/X WELCOME restraints folding root seats immediating multi-fercentles.£2495 P/X WELCOME

00 SUZUKI GRAND VITARI 2.0GV2000. 2dr. manual. 5spd, soft top, petrol, 48,000 miles, metallic green, 1 owner, alloy wheels, central locking, fsh, 12 months mot£1995 P/X WELCOME

98 VOLKSWAGEN SHARAN 2.8 CARAT VR6, 5dr, manula, 5spd, MPV, petrol, 108,000 miles, metallic silver, 2 owners, 92 K ROVER 216 CABRIOLET, 2 dr , automatic, cabriolet,£2495 P/X WELCOME March 2009

91 J TOYOTA MR2 GT T-BAR SPORTS, 2 dr, manual, coupe, petrol, 81,000 miles, metallic red, 7 owners, alloy wheels, cd leather upholstery, part service history, 12 months mot, private plate C2KBT £1995 P/X WELCOME

diesel, 59,000 miles, metallic silver, air conditioning, alloy petrol, 66,000 miles, metallic green, 4 owners, abs, wheels, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, electric imobiliser, radio/cd, taxed until March, 12 months Mot£2595 P/X WELCOME

> 98 X CITROEN SYNERGIE 2.01, 5dr, manual, 5spd, MPV, petrol, 88,000 miles, silver, 3 owners, central locking, fsh, 12 months mot £1995 P/X WELCOME

> 99 T FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC, 5dr, manual, 5spd, hatchback, petrol, 71,000 miles, metallic silver, 2 owners, alloy wheels, Mot until March 2009, fsh, new cambelt on

> history, blue £1695 P/X WELCOME

02 02 PEUGEOT 206+ 1.1 LOOK, 3 dr, manual, hatchback, 99 V VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 12V ENVOY, 3dr, manual, restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, radio/cassette, insurance group 2£1695 P/X WELCOME

02 FIAT PUNTO 1.2 MIA 3dr 59,000 miles, grey, P/S, part service history, 12 months MOT £1,495

M VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CDX AUTOS 5dr 119,000 miles, metallic grey, P/S, C/L, CD player, 12 months Tax, 6 months

air conditioning, alloy wheels, fsh, taxed until Aug, Mot until petrol, 92,000 miles, metallic red, 12 months, Mot£1295 P/X WELCOME

T SUZUKIVITARA 1.6 JX4U ESTATE 3dr. Black. 170.000 miles, P/S, 12 months MOT £1,295

96 N VAUXHALL FRONTERRA 2.01 SPORT APACHE, 3dr, Manual, station wagon, petrol, 150,000 miles, metallic gold£995 P/X WELCOME

01 Y SUZUKI SWIFT 1.3 GLS Green, 5dr, p/s, 83,000 miles, N CORSA MONTANA 1.2, green, 3dr, P/L, E/W, C/D, C/L

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69

A160 CDI, 5 DR CLASSIC SE A170, Avantgarde SE Automatic, 2008, horizon blue met, 3353 miles, £15498, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, Avantgarde SE Automatic, 2008, horizon blue met, 3318 miles, £15988, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, Classic SE Manual 5 DR Classic SE, 2006, atoll blue met, 27024 miles, £8997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, Classic SE Manual 5 DR Classic SE, 2006, atoll blue metallic, 28143 miles, £9997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Elegance SE, 2008, cosmos black metallic, 5000 miles, £14495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Avantgarde SE, 2008, cosmos black metallic, 4000 miles, £14995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Classic SE, 2008, horizon blue metallic, 3000 miles, £14495, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, Classic SE Manual 5 DR, 2006, cosmos black metallic, 37193 miles, £7950, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Elegance SE, 2009, horizon blue metallic, 2000 miles, £18850, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, 5 DOOR Avantgarde SE, 2009, polar silver metallic, 3500 miles, £19400, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A180 CDI, Classic SE Manual 5 DR, 2006, horizon blue, 47921 miles, £7700, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

A200 CDI, Elegance SE Auto 5 DR Elegance SE, 2006, polar silver metallic, 10661 miles, £10997,

B150, MAV, 2008, polar silver metallic, 4000 miles, £13995, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 11526 miles, £18498, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 11853 miles, £19898 Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE) E200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, cubanite silver metallic, 16000 miles, £18300, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008.

£24500, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2004, brilliant silver metallic, 44607 miles,

£12750, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, obsidian black metallic, 7800 miles, £26990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto, 2006

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto EU4

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto

0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

Avantgarde, 2005, iridium silver metallic, 36193 miles, £14890, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

Avantgarde, 2006, silver metallic, 35255 miles, £18250, Maidstone,

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, silver

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2007, blue metallic, 14637 miles, £18900,

Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Avantgarde, 2008, black

E220 CDI, Avantgarde Auto EU4

45182 miles, £14900, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

metallic, 17664 miles, £20270, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, Classic Auto EU4 Classic, 2005, silver met, 35087 miles, £14998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

E220 CDI, AVANTGARDE **GREAT OFFER**, 2007, indium grey metallic, 21000 miles, £17998, Canterbury, 0845 481 6437 (TRADE)

SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, obsidian black metallic, £23997, Ashford, 0845 481 6427 (TRADE)

iridium silver metallic, 34826 miles, £13200, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487

 SLK200 KOMPRESSOR, 2008, iridium silver metallic, 2100 miles, £30424, Tonbridge, 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)
 VIANO 2.2 CDI, 2008, brilliant silver metallic, 4836 miles, £23990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6487 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

COLT, 1.5 DI-D CZ2 5dr Auto air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, pow assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group;5, list price, grey, 50 miles, 28795, Stittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

SLK300, ROADSTER, 2009, obsidiar

Tonbridge 0845 481 6497 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.1 CZ1 3dr, ly08gwn, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group.3, red, 64 milles, £5995, Stillingbourne, 01795 429802

COLT, 1.5 D-ID CZ2 Gdr Auto, gkt09cj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests insurance groups; 5 bite, 8500 miles, \$7995, Stitingbourne, 01795 429902 (TRADF)

COLT, 1.5 CZT Black Hawk 3dr "New Car 1 Only", new09, sod justable seats, adjustable setering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, and theft system, central locking, computer, electric windows, foglights, leather seats, locking wheel unuts, immobiliser, passenger airbag, remote locking, insurance group:13, save_black, 100 milles, 19995. Sittingbourne, 01795 429802.

COLT, 1.5 DI-D CZ2 5dr, yt57cbj, abs, adjustable searts, adjustable searts, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric windows, folights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, insurance group.5, was, blue, 5349 milles, £6995, Stiftingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

I-CAR, 5dr Auto, gn08gxw abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seatering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, olth uphotslery, colour coding body, colour coding hotoly colour coding body, colour coding interior, driver airbag, leactin mirrors, electric windows, folding rear seats, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, tinted glass. insurance group-4, saving, silver, 500 miles, £7993, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5 Did Double Cab Diamond air conditioning, alloy wheels, climate control, central locking, electric sunroof, computer, cruse control, electric mirrors, electric windows, foligibits, immobiliser, electric windows, foligibits, immobiliser, leether seats, locking wheel nuts, navigation system, remote locking, gas lift rear cover. saving over, blue, 100 miles, 1799S, Sittingbourne, 0179S 429802 (TRAD)

Automatic, wm56ftz, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, central locking, electric sunrod, computer, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, leather sats, locking wheel nuts, power assisted steering, remote locking. black, 12500 miles, £11995. Stittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5 Did Diamond Double Cab *
Delivery Miles Only*, gk/39/mvv, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, cruise control, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, heated seats, leather seats, limited slip differential, locking wheel nuts, navigation system, radio/cd, remote locking, extras includer ollershutter, sports bars, saving over__silver, 100 miles, £1895, Sittingbourne, 01795
429802 (TRADE)

L200, Club Cab 4 Life 2.5 DiD *Delivery Miles Only*, gk09nwt, diesel, white, 100 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

L200, 2.5 DiD Single Cab 4 Life, gk09nwu, extras include liner and tow bar. saving over_, silver, 100 miles, £11495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr, ght09cg, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foligilist, front armest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, traction control, insurance groups, 3yrs / 37500 mile free servicing with this car, saving_sitver, 9000 miles, £12995, Stittinghourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 2.0 Sport 5dr, gd05hnr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, sentral locking, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radiord multichanger, rear headrests, rear armest, sports seats, insurance group;12, grey, 33000 miles, 24795, Sittingbourne, 01795 428902 (TRAD)

LANCER, 1.6 Elegance 4dr Auto, gf57/ll, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, estats, lambar estats, lambar estats, lambar estats, lambar estats, immoliser, passenger airbag, power assisted seering, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group-9, grey, 12000 miles, 27395, Stitingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.6 Equippe 5dr Auto, gf57ylr, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable senting column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver arithag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armerer ardio/cd, rear headrests. Insurrance groups, black, 15000 miles, £7995, sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

LANCER, 2.0 Ib-D 6S4 Adr * Delivery Miles Only*, gk09nws, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seating column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, radiotod, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airtages, traction control. insurance group-9, massive savings of verr_red. 10m liles, E15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr, bt57xsl, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable sering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, dvd, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armest, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, insurance group:11, silver, 17300 miles, £15995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429902 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Elegance 5dr, Iv58bhl, abs, adjustable seatis, adjustable seatis, adjustable seatis, adjustable seatis, adjustable seatis, adjustable seatis, adjustable seating column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy dress, and the system, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, electric mirrors, electric mirrors, electric mirrors, electric mirrors, selectric mirro

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Elegance 5dr, gk09mvz, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable servine control, and theff system, central locking, electric sunroof, electrically adjustable seats, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, foglights, front armrest, heated seats, leather seats, leather upholstery, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, navigation system, park distance control, radio/cd, power assisted steering, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags, surroof, traction control. insurance group:12, savings of_sitver, 100 miles, £21995. Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 50 wy080ya, ellectric mirrors, leather gearknob, tinted windows, airbag double + side, cd player, fog lights, electricdoor mirrors, metallic partic, leather steering wheel, 18 light alloy wheels, adjustable seat height, air-conditioning, boardcomputer, silver, 3000 miles, £17899, Sittingbourne, 01795 £4390C (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II. 2.0 DI-DC Warrior 5dr
"Delivery Miles Only", glo9mwy, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, electric mirrors, electric windows, foligihst, front armrest, immobiliser, head restraints, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel, power assistanced steering, remote locking, insurance group:11, savings over_, silver, 100 miles, £18995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADF)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Equippe Commercial 5dr, gk09nxc, saving of_, silver, 100 miles, £13995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.0 DI-DC Warrior, central locking, climate control, computer, cruise control, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather upholstery, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags. insurance group-11, black, 7800 milles, £17895, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

OUTLANDER, II 2.2 DI-DC Diamond 5dr, alos, adjustable seats, adjustable seats, adjustable seats detering oclumn/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, climate control, and tithef system, central locking, electric sunroof, electrically adjustable seats, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, electric windows, extra seats, foglights, front armrest, heated seats, leather seats, teather peahs; the eather updis leather upholstem, locking wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel nuts, multi function steering wheel seating, remote locking, roof rails, side airbags, sumroof, traction control insurance group-12, asvings of _silver, 100 miles, \$22995\$. Stitingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

107, 1.0 Sport XS 3dr, gj07tuv, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric windows, front armrest, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests. Insurance group.1, lalex, 9800 miles, 26995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802

CLIO, 1.2 16V Dynamique 3dr [AC], gf55gsy, silver, 14615 miles, £5495, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802

ROVER

216 SLI, silver, M-reg, 1995. 97,000 miles, second owner, FSH same garage. Taxed & MoT till end August. Leather seats, electric windows etc. Good condition and reliable. £800. Tenterden 07736 426163 (PRIVATE)

SMART

FORTWO cabrio passion, 2004, jack black, 24538 miles, £5695, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

FORTWO coupé passion, 2006, sugar candy pink, 7262 miles, £6999, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488

FORTWO coupé passion, 2008, blue metallic, 7400 miles, £7990, Maidstone, 0845 481 6488 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

COROLLA, 1.4 D-4D Colour Collection 3dr, gv06nyo, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electrically adjustable sasts, computer, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, side airbags, insurance group:5, car reduced was, silver, 33000 miles, E6995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

CORSA, 1.4i 16V SXi 5dr Auto [AC], vn07ons, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, passenger airbag, radio/cd, black, 15000 miles, £8995, Sittingbourne, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.2i 16V SXi+ [80] 3dr, Iv07nwn, abs, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, radio, side airbags. red, 24500 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

VOLVO

S80, SE, x 2000, f.s.h. big service @90,000 inc timing belt, last service 102, 000. cd/cassett/radio, leather/suede, metalic brown, 102000 miles, £2550. Martyn Bax, Kent, 07732395383 (PRIVATE)

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> **3x1** Max. 25 words

Contact us on: 01303 817150

Email: advertising@kosmedia.co.uk

Deadline for advertisements for the newspapers: Friday midday

We can process your payment via telephone, fax, post or email using all major credit cards.



Photographs

You can send in a photograph via email to advertising@kosmedia.co.uk. If you are unsure please telephone one of our advisors on **01303 817150**.

Deadline for sending us photo advertisements is Friday at midday prior to Wednesdays publication.



What do you get for your money?

Advertisement in the 'Your Local' of your choice reaching thousands of adults across 'Your Local' area regularly each week.

Plus free listing on **carsforkent.co.uk** where there are thousands of other Kent cars on sale every day.

When you place a **private advertisement** with KOSMedia you get a unique combination of printed and online media within Britain's award-winning newspaper group and our fast- growing websites.

Click online for a new car

Search and find 1000s of Kent cars online



Check out the prices of new and used car valuations



Search for your local car dealer



Find the latest car reviews and test drives on new cars



Get a car loan quote and calculate your repayments





Use www.CarsforKent.co.uk where you can search through 1,000s of cars for sale across the county.

Online you can view full car details, location map and seller's details, plus road tests and a finance calculator to work out monthly payments.

CarsforKent.co.uk

The smart way to find your next car



TO ADVERTISE: © EMAIL US @: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk

TELEPHONE US ON: 01303 817040 **FAX US ON:** 01303 817004

- · ADMINISTRATION, SECRETARIAL, PA
- AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, ENVIRONMENT
- ART AND DESIGN
- CATERING, HOSPITALITY
- CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURE, SURVEYORS
- · CUSTOMER SERVICE, CALL CENTRE
- EDUCATION, TEACHER, SCHOOL
- ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURING, UTILITIES
- ESTATE AGENCY, PROPERTY

- GRADUATE, TRAINEES
- HEALTH AND SAFETY, SECURITY, DEFENCE
- HR. RECRUITMENT
- INDUSTRIAL, WAREHOUSE, FACTORY
- IT, INTERNET, TELECOMS
- INSURANCE, BANKING, FINANCE
- LEGAL
- LEISURE, TOURISM, TRAVEL
- MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
- MARKETING, ADVERTISING

- NOT FOR PROFIT. CHARITIES
- . NURSING, MEDICINE, CARE WORK
- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
- · PR, MEDIA, JOURNALISM
- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL. WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION

Senior & General Appointments

71-75

Website: www.five-acre.kent.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: PEGGY MURPHY, MA BOUGHTON LANE, MAIDSTONE KENT MF15 9QL Tel: 01622 743925 Fax: 01622 744828 EMAIL: office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk

Five Acre Wood School is looking for a

RECEPTIONIST/CLERICAL ASSISTANT

to join our lively admin team

The hours will be 32.5 hours per week term time only. You will be paid on the Kent Scale Band 3 salary range points 7-11 £10450-£11847 actual

This job will be subject to satisfactory references and an enhanced CRB. Please contact the school for an application pack. Closing date will be Thursday 9th April. Interviews will be held on Monday 27th April

Five Acre Wood and all its personnel are committed to safeguarding children and vouna people.

Fuji Seal Europe Ltd.

The Fuji Seal Group is the only shrink sleeve manufacturer offering a complete single source solution utilising its network of manufacturing operations in the UK, Netherlands, France, Poland, USA, Asia and Japan.

We are recruiting the following positions:

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Duties will include providing the sales team with administration support as well as liaising directly with customers and other internal departments to ensure projects run smoothly and delivery dates are met. Effective communication is key as well as good organisation skills.

GENERAL DUTIES PRINT (DAYS)

Duties will include making of Doctor Blades for printing presses, operation of automated cleaning of Ink buckets, maintaining equipment and housekeeping. Full training will be provided.

You'll enjoy a full range of employee benefits.

To apply please send your CV to HR Department, Fuji Seal Europe Ltd, Scimitar Close, Gillingham Business Park, Gillingham, Kent ME8 ORJ or alternatively you can email to jobs@uk.fujiseal.com.

Closing date: 6 April 2009

STRICTLY NO AGENCIES PLEASE

Fuji Seal Europe are an equal opportunities employer.

KOS Media, publisher of the award-winning Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer, and our midweek titles and associated websites, has a vacancy for a

Freelance sub-editor

We are currently looking for a freelance sub-editor for three days work a week. Candidates must have excellent QuarkXpress skills and be competent at using Adobe Photoshop.

You will be able to spot a typo at 100 paces and be able to write attention-grabbing headlines.

• To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Dave Hobday, Head of Subbing or email dave.hobday@kosmedia.co.uk.



Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth Kent TN25 6SR

KOS Media

Swale Marina Clubhouse @ Conyer Require: BAR STAFF

Bar work experience and food hygiene certificate preferable. Shifts/hours to suit Fri/Sat/Sun/Mon.

COOK

Food hygiene certificate essential. Shifts/hours: Fri - Evening, Sat - Lunch, Sat - Evening, Sun - Lunch. Please contact the Marina Office on 01795 521562 Or e-mail enquiries swale marina@virgin net

SUPPORT WORKER

required for four hours on a Thursday evening to suppor a young lady with learning disabilities in her own home in Teynham. Other positions may be available.

Apply to Jenny c.r.service@ btconnect.com

We are looking for: Waiting / Bar Staff kitchen Porters & **Commis Chef**

t: 01622 749082 e· infn@ themulberrytreekent.co.uk **Catalogue Distributors** Required £50-£300 per week Flexi hours. Part or full time, 18+ Tel: 0845 8736035 www.aim2aspire.co.uk

New Career for 2009



The Royal School of Military Engineering, Brompton Barracks, Chatham

Faculty Manager cf.40k plus performance related pay

Candidates should have management experience and be well organised and disciplined. Reporting to the Head of Division you will be responsible for the efficient "day to day" operation of the faculty with a number of Programme Area Leaders, covering a wide range of engineering trade disciplines, reporting to you

Leadership, Influence and Decision Making are critical skills that a candidate will be able to evidence.

Programme Area Leader £30,312 - £35,000

Candidates should possess relevant trade qualifications and experience in Air Conditioning & Refrigeration (ACR) or Heating and Plumbing (H&P) and be able to demonstrate supervisory skills and experience, ideally within these trade areas. Candidates will be required to undertake teaching duties in these trade disciplines, if required to maintain course

Evidence of formal teaching experience or qualifications is not critical as candidates will be provided with appropriate training and supported to achieve appropriate teaching qualifications. You will supervise a number of trade Instructors.

MKC Training Services Limited is responsible for delivering the trade, technical and professional training to the Royal Engineers at Chatham and has recently been awarded a 30 year contract. These positions are therefore permanent full time posts with the opportunity for the right candidates to join an exciting organisation making a real difference to the British Army

If this looks like the right career move for you, contact Ken Pullan on 07725 128661 for an informal discussion or forward a copy of your CV to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk

Job descriptions for these posts are available at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies)

Closing date: 19th April 2009

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and to selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled

MidKent College is an equal opportunity employer





Recycling Advisors/ Supervisors

required to join our exciting Public Engagement Team, working across Kent on behalf of the Kent Waste Partnership to promote recycling to residents. Advisors: £7.00 p/h + expenses. Supervisors: £8.25 p/h + expenses. All positions full time (max 40 hours per week) for 11 weeks. Must be able to work evenings and weekends. Start date 08/05/09.

For an application form contact Azim Khan at M.E.L Research on 0121 604 4664 or email azim.khan@m-e-l.co.uk

ACCOUNTS CLERK

Six Month Contract Salary dependant on experience.

Clive Emson Auctioneers has a vacancy for a Full-time Accounts Clerk to join our Maidstone Office.

Duties: All aspects of the running of our busy Accounts Department including data inputting, daily management of invoices, payroll, clients account, monthly bank reconciliations and all other duties up to trial balance level. Sage Line 50 experience essential. AAT qualification or equivalent desirable.

Apply in writing, with CV, to: Miss Andrea ennett, Clive Emson Auctioneers, Rocky Hill, London Road, Maidstone, ME16 8PY or email: andrea@cliveemson.co.uk Closing Date: Friday, 24 April 2009

Clive Emson #



Career Opportunities

Sheppey College is an equal opportunities employer



Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Supply Lecturer Administration

Ref: S/SH/Admin

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 noon.

For an information pack please visit www.canterburvcollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

Staff benefits include:

- Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to main bus & train stations

www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies

- · Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to Town Centre



01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



Career Opportunities Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer



Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M Campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Head of Faculty Arts, Media and Publishing

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £42,128 per annum

Manager Health & Social Care

06/110

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum

Temporary Manager Equine, Animal Care, Veterinary Services and **Environmental Conservation**

09/04

S/RDN

37 hrs per week, salary starting at £33,858 per annum. Temporary post to cover maternity leave not to exceed 12 months.

Supply Registered Dental Nurse or Registered Hygienist required to lecturer

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturer required in the following areas: Floristry

Security

S/FL S/SEC

ECO

S/EC

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata per annum

Examinations Coordinator 37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,963 per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:

Early Years S/NVQ/EY Playwork S/NVQ/PW Cleaning Support (Cleaning and Domestic) S/NVQ/CS S/NVQ/SEC

Various hours available, salary range from £18,295 - £26,232 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers within the Faculty of Engineering and Construction

Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum We run a wide range of courses from basic to advanced level and we are looking for professionals from the various trades to join our team of part-time staff. You will need to have suitable qualifications - such as C&G, BTEC, IMI, CITB or similar and current experience in one of the areas. We offer a teacher training programme to suitable applicants who wish to join us in providing this important service to the local community.

- Mechanical Engineering
- Bench fitting
- Turning and milling CAD

Vehicle parts

- Welding
- Motor vehicle mechanics
- Vehicle electrics
- Brickwork
- Carpentry
- Vehicle painting
- Electrical installation
- Vehicle body work
- Plumbing
- Gas fitting
- Kev Skills Mathematics
- - Any other related trade

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 20th April 2009 at 12 noon

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.



- · Pension & Life Assurance Scheme
- · Proximity to main bus & train stations
- Close to City Centre
- · Sports Hall & Gym
- · Generous Holiday Allowance
- · Staff Discount Scheme
- CALL 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)



Opportunities at





Canterbury City Council is a big business with a turnover of more than £100 million and over 900 employees. Rated an Excellent Council and a Times Best Council to Work For, Canterbury is a great place to work. Our conditions include final salary pension scheme plus benefits, flexible working hours and relocation package (where applicable).

Economic Development Officer

Chief Executive's Department ■ Salary range £20,517 to £25,719 pa ■ Permanent position ■ 37 hours per week

We are looking for an individual to manage projects that promote and support local economic

You will demonstrate an understanding of economic development issues and have excellent communication skills to develop relationships within the organisation and with partners including the business community.

Please quote job reference: 1814

Transmanche Enterprise Network Project Officer

Chief Executive's Department ■ Salary range £25,729 to £28,191 pa pro rata 22.5 hours per week ■ Three year fixed term contract

Are you self-motivated, excellent at project management and partnership development and experienced in European funding?

This exciting role involves supporting and encouraging entrepreneurship, the development of micro businesses and encouraging cross border trading. French or Flemish language skills would be an advantage and the ability to travel and work flexible hours are required.

Please quote job reference: 1815

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 12 noon 17 April 2009 Interviews and assessment process will take place on:

Job reference 1814: 29 April 2009 Job reference 1815: 30 April 2009

We prefer applications on-line. For further details of these positions and all our latest opportunities and to apply on-line, visit our website at www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs or e-mail jobs@canterbury.gov.uk If you are unable to access the internet, telephone 01227 862 072

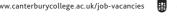
We can supply application packs in Braille or large print format if required

We are an equal opportunities employer.

Putting people first







KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry for the innovative Kent on Sunday, Kent on Saturday and numerous mid-week newspapers.

We now have vacancies for experienced

Mac Operators

We are looking for experienced, confident, self-motivated team players who wish to gain experience within the industry to further their career.

The individual must have relevant Mac experience including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator. The ability to touch-type would be advantageous.

The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our



KOS Media Apple Barn Hythe Road Smeeth

or email: personnel@kosmedia.co.uk



TEACHER OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY / TEXTILES - MPS

As a Specialist Technology College we are seeking to appoint a well-qualified, enthusiastic and energetic teacher to join this successful and developing department that is expanding into KS5 with Food Technology and Textiles. Ability to teach other design and technology subjects would be an advantage

For further information please contact the Headteacher's P.A. Mrs. Theisen on telephone number 01622 689422 or email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk You can also visit our website to download an application form and job description at www.st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk Closing date, Tuesday 21st April 2009 at 4pm - interviews

will take place shortly afterwards We are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults







9-

fast-paced production department. Hours will be variable.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Personnel

Kent TN25 6SR

To advertise in this section 🕜 01303 817040

CAREERS IN HEALTHCARE ACROSS EAST KENT

Eastern and Coastal Kent

From Whitstable to Dover, Ashford to Canterbury, over 710,000 people depend on Eastern and Coastal Kent. We work hard to improve health and wellbeing, to tackle health inequalities and to provide high quality, responsive and efficient services

As one of Kent's largest employers, we aim to have a world-class workforce. Invest your skills in us and we'll invest in you with personalised career development, flexible working, childcare, final salary pension scheme and many other valuable benefits

Health Visitor X 2 (*) (⊜)

Ref: 767-ECL1021

Band 6: £24,831 - £33,436 per annum (pro rata for part time) Herne Bay & Whitstable, Kent

Full Time: 37.5 Hours per week (30 Hours would be considered)

We are looking for two dynamic, innovative, self-motivated, qualified Health Visitors to work in Herne Bay and Whitstable. You will be joining teams supported by skill mix and working towards integration with school nursing to provide a seamless service to children and families in our locality We work within the Eastern and Coastal Kent Framework for Health Visiting, providing a progressive universal service

If you are pro-active and keen to develop the Public Health Agenda and also interested in developing services which respond to the needs of the community, then we would love to hear from you

Excellent communication skills, a flexible, forward thinking approach and commitment to team working are crucial.

It is recommended that you phone the teams for an informal discussion and they will be very happy to facilitate an informal visit. Please contact the Whitstable Team on 01227 378558, the Herne Bay team on 01227 594773 or Susan Gough, Locality Clinical Co-ordinator on 01843 855487

Some re-location expenses may be agreed as per our Relocation Policy.

A comprehensive corporate induction programme is provided at the commencement of employment.

Please ensure that you check your NHS Jobs account regularly in order to see if you have been successful in obtaining an interview

(*) Employment in this post is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau

() Car owner/driver essential, subject to the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act [1995]

For further information and to apply, please visit ww.easternandcoastalkent.nhs.uk

Completed applications by: 17 April 2009. Interviews to be held on: 6 May 2009 (Provisionally)

We are an equal opportunities employer Committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults





Intervenor for Children and Young **People with Multisensory** Impairment/Deafblind

Starting salary £23,053, with progression through contribution related pay to £26,421 pro rata

3 x 25 hours per week

Fixed Term posts until 31st March 2011

Countywide

Work bases for each post are:

West Kent: Kings Hill, West Malling Mid Kent: Kroner House, Ashford East Kent: Clover House, Whitstable

This is an exciting initiative under Aiming High for Disabled Children: Better Support for Families.

This is an opportunity for practitioners experienced in working with children and young people with sensory impairment to work as intervenors with deafblind children from birth to 19 years of age.

Also working with families to develop and support individual communication modes, you will support children and young people with Multisensory Impairment (MSI)/deafblind to participate in extended services and community activities and so to enable families to experience "short breaks".

Working within the Specialist Teaching Service and in liaison with Disabled Children's Service, you will enskill service providers to communicate effectively with children and young people with MSI/deafblind and to support smooth transitions.

You should hold a suitable qualification within this field at NVQ level 3 or equivalent coupled with an additional qualification in MSI/deafblind, sign language, Braille, mobility or guide-communicator.

The 25 hours per week will be delivered flexibly to meet the needs of children, young people and their families as the post is likely to require some work in the evenings and/or weekends.

The ability to travel across a wide geographical area in a timely and flexible manner at various times of the day to meet the requirements of the service is essential.

This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, $please\ email\ recruitment. line@kent.gov.uk\ or\ call$ 0845 8247 904. Please quote reference: CFE/09/0113. Closing date: Midday, 21st April 2009.

A great place to work.

www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the adversariants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any excleptation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Conc

- waratas that the advertisement oces not in any way contravers any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer 2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of opvernment elegislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Lul (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in errors and omissions to the content of our media. All rates updated are subject to VM at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.

 All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement. Any unsualbel material poster of any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Lul (pains the content of th

- belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.

 Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimere where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.

 KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.

 KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertises" shall be construed to include any person or 10.

 10. Sprainsaloro placing an advertisement on behalf of any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for that advertising.

 11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.

 12. Claims for any error inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Claims for any error or inaccuracy in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. See the company of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd was the right to cancel the advertisers' annual membership without notice should the advertiser ofeliperately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd was the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to calm danages for any operated variations action with the dependent of the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to calm danages to range yoperation an

- - advertising until payment is received and/or reposite the contract and make any advertising until payment is received and/or reposite the contract and make any advertising until payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing). Lid by the deed that, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdure balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Mestimister Bank Pic from time to time in force of the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing). Ltd (or whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall all due for immediate payment.

 e. The Advertiser to the date of cessation shall all due for immediate payment.

 e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing). Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.

 f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.

- in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.

 I. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.

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All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004 Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk



Award winning publications

www.kentnews.co.uk

Tenterden & District Age Concern Day Care Centre

Age Concern Day Centre Manager - We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and experienced person to manage the day to day running and organisation of the Day Centre, which provides a variety of day care services for older people.

NVQ 3 in Care or equivalent qualification essential.

Previous experience of working with older people preferred. Working hours – 35 hours per week Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays. Starting salary not less than £18,000.00 pa, depending on experience and qualifications.

Secretary/administrative support - We also require a flexible and adaptable person to work on a part-time basis offering secretarial and administrative support to the Age Concern Day Centre Manager and staff.

An ability to work with older people an advantage.

Working hours – 9.00 to 12.30pm Monday to Friday Salary £8.00 per hour

Annual leave 20 days plus statutory Bank Holidays

For details contact Nicky Tredway 01580 762882. Tenterden & District Day Centre, Church Road, Tenterden. TN30 6AT

Closing date April 17th 2009

All appointments subject to Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau checks



MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following area:

Personal Tutor Ref: P0316 (Full-time, Part-time and Fixed Term)

Salary: £20,368 - £26,255 per annum/pro rata

We currently have a number of opportunities for full-time and part-time Personal Tutors. As a Personal Tutor you will plan and deliver a full range of group tutorials to learners with a wide range of abilities. You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have experience of working in a coaching, mentoring or teaching capacity and be willing to undertake an appropriate teaching qualification. When applying, please state clearly your preferred role.

Closing date: Friday 17 April 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer











PART-TIME FIELD SALES EXECUTIVE DON'T EVEN CALL **UNLESS** YOU ARE AN OVER ACHIEVER & CAN PROVE IT!

We are a high quality, established company who have been trading in the construction industry for over 30 years.

Come and build an empire within our fine company.

WE ONLY EMPLOY TOP PRODUCERS.

If you were an average executive in 2009, you have earned so far this year your basic pay plus over £3,000 in commission. If you were a star you would have earned the same basic plus over £6,000 in commission.

YOUNG OR OLD, IF YOU HAVE GOT WHAT IT TAKES, **WE WILL KNOW!**

Contact us on: 01634 263121



Class 2 drivers for food delivery, 20 - 30 drops. Fridge & Multidrop experience preferred. Based out of Aylesford.

Class 1 & 2 drivers for drinks delivery. Previous dray experience preferred. Based in Crayford & Faversham

PCV drivers for general coach work. Private hire, Rail replacement, School runs. Based in Gravesend, Medway, Maidstone & Aylesford, £9.00/hr, quaranteed 8hrs pay.

For information on these and other vacancies please call Andy or Alex on 01622 664999



MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Hourly Paid Lecturers in Beauty Therapy Ref: SE001 Salary: £20.37 - £28.92 per hour

The College is currently looking to recruit dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturers in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be

Hourly Paid Lecturers in Hair Design Ref: SE002 Salary: £20.37 - £28.92 per hour

We are looking to recruit passionate individuals to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience

Closing date: Friday 17 April 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance

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Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer















JOURNALISTS REQUIRED (Freelance/Contract)

KOS Media launched its Midweek series of local newspapers 18 months ago and there are now 10 titles covering towns and districts across East and Mid Kent.

Our industry is going through change but KOS Media's successful mix of newspapers, websites and online TV offers news journalists a unique challenge.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Reminding the over 40s of their skills

A NEW programme to help the over-40s facing the dole or already unemployed is being piloted in the county.

Called Shape Your Future, it's a free workshop taking place over two and a half days to allow people to explore selfemployment as an option for the future.

Business Link's Sharon Massingham,

who designed the programme, said: "Facing redundancy is frightening, particularly in the current climate, especially for those who are more mature and fear they might not find work again.

"It is important to recognise that it was the job that was lost, not you. You have the same skills, knowledge and experience you had before you were made redundant.

"It may be you are passionate about a hobby or interest that could be a potential business opportunity. Why not come along

and find out if it is a possibility?"

Dates are April 27 and April 29 at Lordswood; and tomorrow (Thursday),
May 19 and May 21 at Chatham.

Further workshops, including one aimed specifically at executives and professionals, will take place in Medway during May and June.

The programme is funded by the South East England Development Agency. Details on 01732 878586

Forum says demand more from suppliers

ANYONE running a business knows that one or two suppliers and the odd client can be pains in the nether regions, but the Forum of Private Business says dealing with them has become one of the biggest headaches.

The forum, which represents many businesses in Kent, is urging small firms to save money by creating more efficient dealings with suppliers.

A survey by research and consulting agency YouGov found that 42 per cent of the owners of small businesses who responded were most anxious about dealing with difficult suppliers and clients. The same proportion said that their greatest concern was the fear of technology not working properly.

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Julie Maddocks asks: "Is small really beautiful in business?" Search 'crunch'

Trish's top tips could make the difference

BY TONY PATEY

TRAINING and development have shot to the forefront of business agendas as bosses realise that looking after their staff can help fight tough trading conditions.

With redundancies taking their toll, employers want to boost the morale and motivation of those still in work and training for the future is a key way of doing that.

Trish Fraser, managing director of Quality South East, the Investors in People centre for Kent, said: "Although it is generally accepted that staff development pays for itself in the long run, most companies are thinking about the short term at the moment.

"Making the case for investing in staff development has become more difficult in the past year as many organisations are focusing on efficiency and cost-cutting.

"However, those companies that look after their staff are much more likely to survive the recession.

Her top tips to help companies think about how they can develop their staff cost-effective-

- · Prioritise training needs. Instead of cutting the budget on all training, think about what is essential for the organisation's development and which is desirable.
- · Training does not have to be conducted by a specialist provider. People within an organisation that have received training are often very well equipped to deliver it and share best practice, which is also an empowering experience for employees.
- Development does not just mean training. Think about employees' roles and how their skills can be broadened through learning on
- Allow employees flexible hours to pursue their own interests or to volunteer. Both can



PEOPLE MATTER: Trish Fraser, of Quality South East, says training and development of staff remains crucial

lead to ongoing development, as well as helping staff to feel appreciated, without a cost to the employer.

- Following major reorganisations, many people are being asked to cover new and expanded roles, but it is important that employees do not feel new responsibilities are being forced on them. Helping staff to feel motivated to test themselves will maintain productivity.
- Managers must help employees get to grips with new situations and challenges they are facing. Low morale and a lack of skills will ultimately impact the bottom line in so many

ways both the long and short term.

- Look at subsidised courses. Government grants are available and it is worth investigating the help that is out there.
- · Online courses, whether bought in or developed in-house, can be very cost-effective. Employees can work at a time to suit them and do not have to spend days out of the office.
- Good communication is essential; encourage staff to talk to each other and share ideas. It may be that an employee has discovered an ingenious way of overcoming a problem that his or her colleagues are struggling with.



FOOTBALL

Hotshot Barnett continues Chats' winning streak

Chatham Town 1 Redbridge 0

CHATHAM Town's hopes of a top ten finish in Ryman Division One North were boosted at the weekend as they continued their excellent run of form.

Binks side are the form side in the division having won five games on the spin and boast an unbeaten record of eight matches, with their last defeat stretching back to February 24, when they lost 2-1 at Great Wakering Rovers.

The win at Maidstone Road on Saturday came courtesy of Lee 71st-Barnett's strike. which makes it 16



MAN IN FORM: Barnett hit 16th goal of season

goals for the season for the in-form striker. In the first half, Michael Dodsworth's long-range shot induced panic in the Redbridge goalkeeper who wasn't concentrating, while the Chats dominated the second half and deserved their lead.

The Chats return to action on Saturday when they take on Northwood at Maidstone Road

Another win for Binks's side could see them move up as far an ninth in the division. Kick-off is at 3pm.

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Mark Stimson discusses what he feels has been turning point of the season





SLIPPED UP: Mark Stimson's decision to replace Andy Barcham (above) with Garry Richards was met with jeers from the crowd, while Simon Royce was powerless to prevent Gills' defeat

Furlong shows his class as Gills fail to find first gear

IT was labelled a potential banana skin and sure enough Gillingham fell for the bait as they slipped up against struggling Barnet at Priestfield.

The Gills were a shadow of the side that earned a point at leaders Barnet the previous weekend, which could be attributed to Mark Stimson's changes in which Mark McCammon and Adam Miller were dropped to the bench.

Bees forward Paul Furlong rolled back the years as the 40-year-old former Chelsea player gave a centre-forward's display right out of the text book. He opened the scoring in the first half, won a penalty in the second and bullied Simon King and Mark Bentley all afternoon.

In a poor first half in which Gillingham failed to register a single shot on target, it was the visitors, battling to stay in the division, who looked the more dangerous of the two sides

They showed their intent when Furlong managed to get a shot off on the edge of the penalty box that had Gills goalkeeper Simon Royce stranded as the ball rolled just wide of

Barnet then took the lead after 23 minutes. Leading scorer John O'Flynn was given too

FOOTBALL

BY GLENN PEARSON

Gillingham 0



Furlong 23, O'Flynn pen 54



much time on the edge of the Gillingham box, allowing the striker to provide an inch-perfect cross for Furlong, who beat his marker to head into the bottom corner.

It took until five minutes after the half-time interval for the home side to register any sort of strike on goal when defender John Nutter let fly with a left-foot volley that was well saved by

Despairing

But the visitors made them pay four minutes later when Bentley was adjudged to have pulled Furlong down just inside the area, referee Kevin Friend showing no hesitation in pointing to the spot.

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Richards (Barcham 75), Miller (Southall 67), McCammon (Oli 63)

O'Flynn stepped up to net his 17th goal of the season, dispatching the ball into the top righthand corner past Royce's despairing dive.

The Gills thought they had equalised just after the hour mark when King turned in the six-yard box and hammered an effort at goal, but Cole denied him with a brilliant reflex save.

McCammon, on for Dennis Oli, shot wide when presented with an open goal to sum up Gillingham's day, but the biggest jeer of the day came when Andy Barcham was replaced by defender Garry Richards with 15 minutes to play. It didn't go down well with Gills fans who began chanting at Stimson: 'you don't know what you're doing'.

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Mos put Dragons to sword to reach play-off finals day

ICE HOCKEY

BY **YOURMEDWAY REPORTER**

Invicta Dynamos 7 Cardiff Dragons 4

Dynamos win 11-5 on aggregate

THERE was never much danger that the Dynamos would take the second leg of this play-off quarterfinal for granted, even with a 4-1 lead from the first leg in the bag.

Coach Kevin Parrish had warned against the dangers of complacency following the Mos first-leg win in Wales a fortnight ago, and they shrugged off the disappointment of last week's twolegged cup final loss at the hands of Sheffield Spartans to book a place in the English National Ice

Hockey League's play-off finals.
Parrish was specifically wary of
the danger of conceding early goals
that would allow the Welsh side back into the tie, but the visitors' plans were thrown into disarray

LEAGUE TABLES

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

2 Exeter City 3 Bury 4 Wycombe Wanderers

6 Gillingham 41
7 Shrewsbury Town 41
8 Bradford City 41
9 Chesterfield 40
10 Dagenham & Redbridge 40

12 Darlington (-10) 40
13 Morecambe 40
14 Rotherham United (-17) 39
15 Aldershot Town 40

11 Lincoln City

16 Notts County 17 Accrington Stanley 18 Port Vale 19 Barnet 20 Macclesfield Town

21 Bournemouth (-17) 22 Grimsby Town 23 Chester City 24 Luton Town (-30)

13 Enfield Town

16 Maldon Town

1 Hythe Towr 2 Holmesdale

3 Herne Bay 4 VCD Athletic 5 Faversham Town

6 Greenwich Borough 7 Erith Town

8 Croydon 9 Erith & Belvedere 10 Tunbridge Wells

11 Norton Sports 12 Deal Town

13 Slade Green

RYMAN DIVISION ONE NORTH

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

FIXTURES (Saturday): Coca-Cola Football League Two: Wycombe v Gillingham; Ryman Division One North: Chatham Town v Northwood; Kent League: Lordswood v Norton Sports

sidelines early on for infringements.

With just three men on the ice against Invicta's five, the Dragons found it impossible to contain the Medway side.

Martin Melichercik struck first to put Invicta 5-1 up on aggregate and the lead was increased when Anthony Leone struck the home side's second of the afternoon.

Within seconds Melichercik had made it 3-0 and 7-1 on aggregate, but the visitors then mounted an alarming revival.

Steve Fisher scored what looked like a consolation goal at the end of the first period, before a double from Tim Burrows made it 3-3 on the day.

When Brent Pope then shot Cardiff in front, Invicta's once-impregnable looking cushion was down to three goals, but they quashed any hopes of a Dragons come back with two goals in the first 30 seconds of the third period from Andy Smith and Elliot Andrews.

Smith made it 6-4 on the day and Lewis Burke completed the scoring late on.

The Dynamos face Sheffield in the National Final at Coventry on Sunday and they return to the same venue the following weekend for the play-off finals.

+2 -4 +9 -15 -24 -18 -29 -42 -63 -67



ON TARGET: Martin Melichercik's strike helped fire Invicta into play-off semi-finals

HOLDING ON: Medway (right) must beat Cranbrook on Saturday if they are to win the Kent 1 title

Medway title push faltering after second defeat in a row

RUGBY

Old Gravesendians 27 Medway 3

MEDWAY'S grip on the Kent 1 title was loosened at the weekend as they experienced back-to-back defeats for the first time this season.

Taff Gwilliam's side were cruising at the top of the division for the majority of the season, having won 17 league games on the spin. Defeat to Sittingbourne last month was Medway's first since their opening day loss to

The same side beat them 27-0 last weekend, making Saturday's game against second-placed Old Gravesendians even more important. However, the visitors were never on their game and Old G's ran out easy winners, closing the gap at the top of the division to just two points.

Medway's fate is still very much in their own hands because if they record a victory against Cranbrook at Priestfields next Saturday, it doesn't matter what any of the other sides do as they will be crowned champions.

If they fail to win and Old Gravesendians beat Gillingham Anchorians away, the title will go to the Old G's courtesy of a superior points

In Rugby League, the Harlequins first team and their coaching staff were due to arrive at the Medway Dragons' home ground at The Garrison, to take part in a day's train-

ing with the club. • To see how it went, log onto www.yourmedway.co.uk.

FOOTBALL

Scally gets radical to hurt clubs that mock the system

OUTSPOKEN Gillingham chairman Paul Scally has called for tougher punishments for clubs that go into administration, claiming they should be relegated and denied promotion for three seasons.
In a week in which

Southampton's parent company went administration, but could see the Championship side escape a ten-point deduction, point Scally has hit out at clubs that are making a "mockery" of the system.

The Gills chairman has never hidden his dislike of



OUTSPOKEN: Paul Scally wants heavier penalties

teams being deducted points, and has instead advocated a system in which teams that opt to go into administration suffer

more dire consequences.

He said: "I do not like this points deduction system and in truth it has become a bit of a mockery. If a club go into administration they should be relegated and not allowed to get promoted for three seasons. I

do not have any problem with that.

"These clubs do not go into administration lightly, but it may be they have spent money on players they shouldn't have and that gives them an advantage they should not have. Rather than having points knocked off they should be relegated and only allowed to return after three seasons once they have proved to the league they

have their finances in order."

Bournemouth, Rotherham and Luton have all been docked points for going into administration in League Two, while Wigan chairman Dave Whelan has claimed the debts of some Premier League sides are unsustainable and he wouldn't be surprised if one of them were to go bust.

The Gills, whose Priestfield ground is also owned by a parent company - Priestfield Developments Limited – headed by Scally, were reported to have borrowed money from the Professional Footballers' Association to help with the club's wage bill. Scally confirmed £100,000 was borrowed,

but declared that it was returned almost

We did take a loan until the end of the season, but in the end we found that we didn't need to take it," he said. "We had money owed to us that didn't come so we took a £100,000 loan in December, but the money we were owed arrived so we were in a position to hand it back to the PFA in January."

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